



# City of Holyoke Open Space and Recreation Plan 2013-2018

A Five-Year Action Plan  
for parks and natural resources

## Open Space & Recreation Plan for the City of Holyoke

The City of Holyoke has updated its Open Space and Recreation Plan to establish an Action plan that is consistent with those ideas and preference that were expressed to the planning team during the public outreach component of developing this document. These preferences include: a desire to see the development in downtown Holyoke continue to gain momentum; the desire to preserve the City's scenic, cultural and ecological resources; and a strong desire to develop recreational amenities that appeal to all cross-sections of the City.

This plan relied on an intense and iterative public participation process that reached deeply into the community. It does not capture and reflect the views and viewpoints of every resident, but it does provide an indicator of how a significant cross-section of the residents of Holyoke would like to see their City grow over the next five years.

The ultimate goal of this plan is to enable citizens and policy makers to make informed decisions for Holyoke's future; the goals and actions are not intended to be rigid, but, rather, indicative of how the City could grow, based upon citizen feedback that was obtained in the winter and spring of 2012. To that end, the full and final document will be housed on the Conservation Commission's website to allow free and open access to the public ([www.holyoke.org](http://www.holyoke.org))

### **Committees acting on the Plan:**

Planning Board: Approved August 22, 2012

Conservation Commission: Approved August 21, 2012

Recreation Commission: Approved October 30, 2012

City Council: Endorsed February 6, 2013

Mayor: Endorsed February 6, 2013

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\*Assistance was crucial to the success of the public outreach process

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# 1 Plan Summary

The 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan provides the City of Holyoke with guidance on how to best meet the City's open space, conservation, and recreation needs. Like most municipalities, it is not possible for Holyoke to fund all programs and activities at all times. For this reason, the 2012 OSRP relied on a thorough and extensive public participation process to develop an interpretation of the Community's Open Space and Recreation priorities. This plan was developed with input from the public, municipal non-profits, and municipal boards. Additionally, the Holyoke Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission, and Planning Board have identified guiding principles for the City to follow as it considers its Open Space and Recreation needs. To that end, the City, in cooperation with its state and federal partners, should:

- Continue to build off of the City's pattern of improving existing recreational facilities and parks through alignment of capital improvements and grant priorities.
- Provide well-maintained recreational facilities through the development of park management plans.
- Develop communication strategies that will inform citizens of the City's existing passive and active recreational programs, facilities and activities.
- Develop passive and active recreational activities, facilities and programs to meet the needs of youths, families and senior citizens, including user groups with differing abilities.
- Take regulatory and non-regulatory measures to protect the City's drinking water supplies and watershed lands.
- Work in partnership with land trusts and state agencies to conserve the City's natural resources through preservation of priority parcels with either fee simple acquisition or acquisition of development rights.
- Continue to expand access to the Connecticut River for citizens.
- Develop regulatory and non-regulatory strategies to protect the City's scenic and cultural resources.
- Integrate the City's pedestrian paths and bikeways into surrounding regional bike and pedestrian trails.
- Take action to support local agriculture through identifying and implementing strategies to promote neighborhood and community gardens throughout the City.



## 2 Introduction

### Statement of Purpose

On many different levels, Holyoke is a community at several different crossroads. Whether it be an ecological or geographical crossroad, it is highly likely that it exists in Holyoke. This concept of Holyoke as a Crossroad Community provides a useful framework for understanding the role of Holyoke's 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan. In 2012, the City's task is to seize its positive momentum and chart a course forward for the next several years.

From a biological perspective, Holyoke exists at the crossroad of New England's coastal and highland ecosystems. This combines with the underlying geology of the City and the Connecticut River to create a wealth of ecological and biological diversity that is uncommon for a City of Holyoke's size. The City's history of planning for watershed needs and stewardship legacy have resulted in the preservation of more than 32 percent of the City's total land area. This gives the Citizens of Holyoke an exceptional wealth of scenic, natural, cultural, and recreation resources. Public and private land organizations, businesses, and individual citizens have worked to make the City's landscape a component of Holyoke's quality of life.

Efforts taken by the City since the 2005 OSRP have greatly enhanced recreational and open space options within the City. One such example is the construction of the Jones Ferry River Access Center in 2008. This facility provides residents with the only public access point available in Holyoke and has promoted a recreational profile in the City that would allow someone to spend their morning canoeing on the Connecticut River and their evening hiking on Mount Tom. This mixture of recreational opportunities is unique and sets Holyoke apart from surrounding communities and the City has made significant investments in existing parks to enhance this mixture, such as the refurbishment and redevelopment of Community Field in 2012.

From a transportation perspective, Holyoke exists at the crossroad of Western Massachusetts' two most significant automobile routes: Interstates 90 and 91. This results in significant development interests in southern Holyoke and will continue to do so as the national economy continues to rebound. From a recreation standpoint, Holyoke exists at the crossroad of several long-distance hiking and bicycling trails, and the integration of these amenities into the daily recreational profile has the potential to mitigate the effects of high traffic that will accompany enhanced economic activity near Holyoke's transportation nodes.

Finally, Holyoke is at an economic crossroad. The construction of the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center and Holyoke's strong commitment to renewable energy have the potential to transform Holyoke into a model economic success story for the 21st Century. The success of this economic trend can be transformational in Holyoke's urban areas, which will make Holyoke's investments in urban parks rewarding for Holyoke's residents.

To that end, this plan has been updated to help the community plan for its open space and recreation needs. It provides an inventory of land of ecological, cultural, and recreational importance to the City, including permanently protected, temporarily protected, and unprotected parcels. It examines and catalogues unmet recreational and resource protection needs and provides guidance on how the City can utilize limited resources to meet Holyoke's open space, conservation, and recreation needs.

The plan is intended to assist elected officials and citizens' groups in the decision-making and planning process. It is not designed to be a rigid tool, but rather a guiding document that expresses the general priorities of the community, as they were expressed in 2012. It addresses priority parcels for

*(Continued on page 6)*

## 2 Introduction

land preservation as well as the management of current open space and recreation properties. The plan also addresses possible regulatory and capital improvements that have the potential increase Holyoke's ability to preserve open space and promote recreational activities without increasing funding requirements.

Through collaboration, Holyoke's elected officials, municipal departments and its larger community can implement the goals and strategies identified in this plan. Funding will not be available for all of the strategies identified, but flexibility and broad community support can successfully implement the City's most important priorities.

Through adoption of this Open Space and Recreation Plan, the City is proactively working to preserve and protect its natural, cultural, and recreational resources. The adoption of this plan is undertaken to preserve and safeguard those aspects of Holyoke that are essential for the City's quality of life, its economic well-being, and its long-term ability to exist as a sustainable community.

This plan meets the Open Space and Recreation Plan requirements of the Self-Help Act and is an element of the Holyoke's suite of planning documents. The Mayor of Holyoke, the Holyoke City Council, as well as the Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission, and Planning Board have adopted the Plan in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, §81D.



Holyoke City Hall

# 2 Introduction

## Planning Process and Public Participation

This plan updates and builds off of the City's earlier *Open Space and Recreation Plans* (1997 and 2005) and on other planning documents, inclusive of *The City of Holyoke Master Plan* (1999), the *Holyoke Hazard Mitigation Plan* (2008) and the *City's Urban Renewal Plan* (2012). This plan was written under the direction of the Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission, and Planning Board.

A robust public outreach process occurred to gather data for this update to the City's Open Space and Recreation Plan. An OSRP survey was developed in both English and Spanish, links to these surveys were posted in the City's Website and forwarded through the use of social media. In addition to posting digital links to the survey, paper copies were distributed in both English and Spanish in the Mayor's office, the Clerk's office, the Department of Public Works and at Council on Aging. Small business-card size descriptions of the OSRP and a link to the survey were distributed to the public during major community events (i.e. the annual Christmas Tree Lighting) and at high-traffic locations (i.e. the Holyoke Mall during the peak of the Christmas shopping season).

These efforts resulted in 350 survey responses, of which 340 were completed in English and 10 were completed in Spanish. In order address this discrepancy, public outreach events were scheduled in those census tracts that contain high numbers of the City's Spanish-speaking population. These events were well attended and produced qualitative data that would not have been captured otherwise.



**Substantial effort taken to reach both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking residents.**



[Home](#) > [Breaking News - MassLive.com](#) > [Holyoke](#)

## **Holyoke Flats neighborhood residents discuss closing streets for activities, fixing sprinklers, keeping parks safe**

















Published: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 12:00 PM



By **Mike Plaisance**, [The Republican](#)  
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**Regional Context Map Holyoke**

-  New England Trail
  -  Multi-Use Paths
  -  Connecticut River
  -  Barnes Sole Source Aquifer
  -  Zone II Barnes Aquifer
  -  Protected Open Space
- Watershed Basins**
-  2-BARRY BROOK
  -  9-BROAD BROOK
  -  5-CONNECTICUT RIVER
  -  6-HAMPDEN PONDS
  -  11-MANHAN RIVER
  -  3-McLEAN RESERVOIR
  -  4-PAUCATUCK BROOK
  -  8-SCHOOLHOUSE BROOK
  -  1-TANNERY BROOK
  -  10-WHITING RESERVOIR

NORTHAMPTON

HADLEY

SOUTH HADLEY

EASTHAMPTON

SOUTHAMPTON

WESTFIELD

WEST SPRINGFIELD

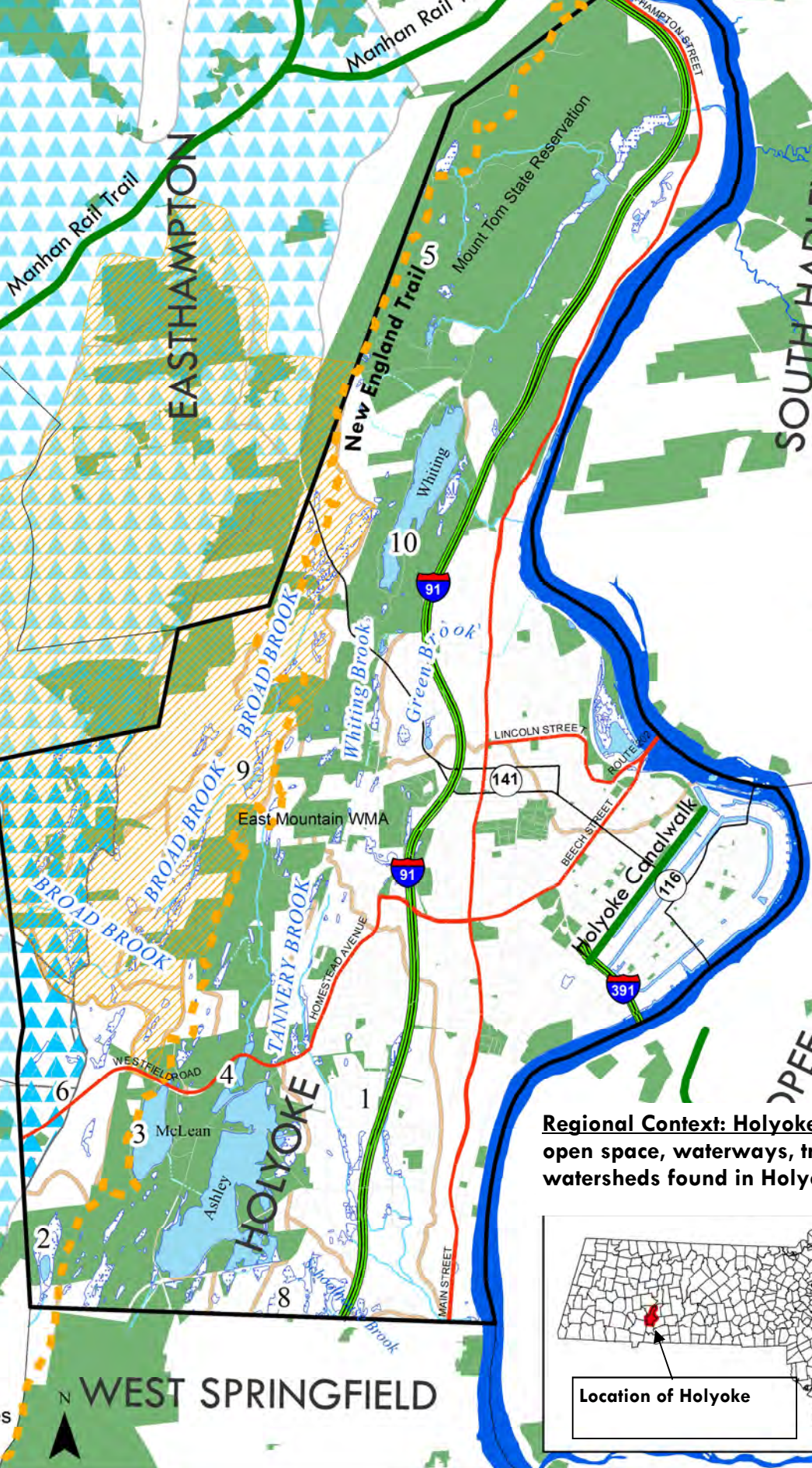
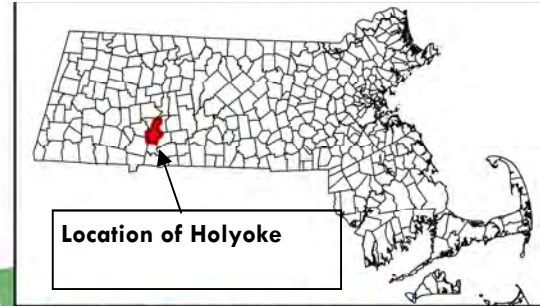
HOLYOKE

East Mountain WMA

Mount Tom State Reservation

Holyoke Canalwalk

**Regional Context: Holyoke.** Depiction of open space, waterways, trails, aquifers and watersheds found in Holyoke.





# 3 Community Setting

## Regional Context

The City of Holyoke in Western Massachusetts is one of the first planned industrial cities in the world. A 57-foot drop in the Connecticut River proved to be an ideal location for capturing the power of the Connecticut River when investors dammed the River in mid 1800s. The power from this dam fed reliable and inexpensive power through a network of canals to immense complexes of mill buildings. The resulting combination of inexpensive power, reliable transportation and a steady influx of workers allowed Holyoke to become the global center of paper production. For more than a century, the City's economic center was tightly linked with the Connecticut River, as can be observed in the City's historical manufacturing core.

The Connecticut River and Mount Tom/East Mountain range frame Holyoke, which can be found midway between the Vermont and Connecticut state borders. The City is the third largest community in the Greater Springfield Metropolitan Statistical Area, after Springfield itself and Chicopee. Holyoke is on the west bank of the Connecticut River, with South Hadley and Chicopee across the river to the east and Easthampton, Southamptton, and Westfield on the City's western boundary, and West Springfield on the City's southern border. With its topographically and naturally defined borders, Holyoke exists as geographically distinct community.

Holyoke is a densely populated city of 22.44 square miles (14, 367 acres). Most of its 39,880 residents live east of Mount Tom, in the historical urban, industrial, and commercial portion of the City. In contrast to the urban core, West Holyoke, located on the west side of East Mountain, is a sparsely populated, mostly rural/ agricultural section of the City.

In addition to its considerable Connecticut River frontage and the dam, Holyoke has two other major regional environmental resources: Mount Tom and

the Barnes Aquifer. Mount Tom and its southerly extension, East Mountain, create the western half of the striking mountain range that bisects Massachusetts' Connecticut River Valley; the Holyoke Range is their eastern side counterpart. Mount Tom State Reservation is an important public regional recreation resource, as seen in the high percentage of residents (76.2%) who utilize the facility. It offers twenty miles of hiking trails and spectacular views from its peaks. The New England Scenic Trail, a hiking trail connecting Connecticut and New Hampshire, runs along the tops of East Mountain and Mount Tom. The mountain range is also habitat for more than thirty rare and endangered plants and animals, one of the largest concentrations of rare species in Western Massachusetts. Please reference the Regional Context Map on page 8 for a representation of these resources.

The Barnes Aquifer, which underlies most of West Holyoke as well as parts of several other towns, is the sole source of public drinking water for Easthampton. It is also an important public drinking water source for Southamptton, Holyoke, and Westfield. Twelve public wells tap the Barnes Aquifer to supply

**One of the largest concentrations of rare species in Western Massachusetts.**



Source: Richmond, A. R.

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21 million gallons a day to 60,000 people. With increasing residential, commercial and industrial development interest in those communities, safeguarding the aquifer's purity is becoming increasingly important and difficult. In 1988 Holyoke joined with Easthampton, Southampton, and Westfield in forming the Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee, which is charged with coordinating water protection efforts among the municipalities. Holyoke adopted a Water Protection Overlay District Ordinance aimed at protecting the aquifer in 1994.

The City of Holyoke's growth and development has been shaped by the regional environmental resources that it shares with surrounding communities. The Connecticut River provided the City with an abundant source of power to fuel its growth in the 19th and 20th Centuries. The gently sloping alluvial plains of the River provided land for factories and homes. East Mountain and Mount Tom provided both a scenic backdrop and a de facto urban growth boundary for the City, as the slopes and soils of these two mountains were not conducive to large-scale commercial and residential development. Mount Tom, which the City shares with Easthampton, was once located in Easthampton and Northampton, but the land was transferred incorporated into Holyoke's municipal boundaries when the Mount Tom State Reservation was created in 1902.

Today, natural features shape the community insofar as the Mountain and the River provide excellent opportunities for recreation, as well as an attraction for eco-tourism and area businesses. As noted above Holyoke shares the Barnes Aquifer with its surrounding communities, which provides clean groundwater for approximately 60,000 residents in the towns of Westfield, Easthampton, Holyoke and Southampton. In Holyoke, where a portion of the Aquifer occupies the City's western border, zoning has been enacted (Water Supply Protection Overlay District) to limit impervious surfaces and chemicals over the Barnes Aquifer to maintain its water quality. The presence of the Barnes Aquifer, and

the zoning Holyoke has enacted, help to preserve the rural character of West Holyoke. Finally, the City's topography makes it the origin of several brooks and streams, which discharge into surrounding towns. For example, Tannery Brook has its headwaters in Holyoke but discharges on the Holyoke/West Springfield line. Development decisions in the Tannery Brook watershed in Holyoke have a downstream impact on the Connecticut River. For this reason, the City enforces the Wetlands Protection Act within the Tannery Brook watershed and actively pursues funding opportunities to retrofit any outdated infrastructure that limits the health of Tannery Brook. Similarly, the City holds the headwaters for Schoolhouse Brook, Barry Brook, Paucatuck Brook and Broad Brook, all of which are noted for their high habitat value and clean water. It should be noted that Paucatuck Brook serves as the source for both Ashley Reservoir and West Springfield's Bear Hole surface water reservoir. Taken together, these small streams provide real financial and quality of life benefit to Holyoke and its neighbors.

It bears noting that Holyoke's mountainous western section provides a significant amount of forested land for a regional wildlife/green corridor, most of which contains the New England Scenic Trail. Continuing efforts to support this corridor will benefit the



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# 3 Community Setting

region's residents through providing wildlife habitat and long-distance hiking opportunities not afforded in comparable metropolitan areas.

## History of Holyoke

Before European settlement, the area that eventually became the City of Holyoke was used by Native Americans of the Algonquin and Iroquois tribes for hunting and fishing, particularly around the great falls on the Connecticut River. A north-south trail along the eastern base of the mountain range ran along the site of the present-day Northampton Street

In the 1630s an English explorer, Rowland Thomas, led a party up the Connecticut River, naming Mt. Tom after himself along the way. By the late 1600s the southern part of what became Holyoke was included in the town of Springfield. The northern part, Smith's Ferry, became part of Northampton. In 1750, the Holyoke area was declared Ireland Parish, part of Springfield, because of the Scottish-Irish settlement there. In 1774, the Ireland and West Springfield Parishes of Springfield were incorporated as the new Town of West Springfield. By this point, the Holyoke area was primarily agricultural, with several small mills and tanneries. The South Hadley Canal, on the east side of the Connecticut River, provided water access upstream of the falls, but was not used for water power.

This slow settlement of the Holyoke area changed dramatically in the mid-1800s, with the building of the Connecticut River dam in 1847 as well as the coming of the railroad in 1845. A consortium of Boston investors decided to take advantage of the 57-foot drop of the Connecticut River to provide water power for textile mills on the western (Holyoke) side of the river. Over the course of a few years, they bought a thousand acres of farmland, built a dam across the Connecticut, constructed three levels of canals, and established a series of large mills across the canals. Most importantly, they laid out the plan for Holyoke, which still exists today - a grid system

of streets parallel to the river and canals, places for parks and institutions such as churches and schools, and areas for industry, stores and residences.

While the Boston investors had planned that the mills would produce cotton, the Civil War cut off the supply of raw cotton to the North and the paper industry took root in Holyoke and quickly expanded, to the point where by 1899 Holyoke mills produced 75% of the world's paper. As a result of the building of the dam, canals, and associated mills, the population of Holyoke grew by an astounding factor of ten in the last half of the 1800s, from 3,245 in 1850 to 35,637 in 1890. The City was, and is, a dense, distinctly urban settlement on the gentle slope of the western riverbank.

The rapid population growth in the City was fueled, in large part, by immigration from foreign countries rather than movement within New England. Spurred by the Irish potato famine in 1847, Irish immigrants came to help build the canals and work in the early cotton mills; by 1855 they constituted 35% of the City's residents. Between 1875 and 1900 most of the immigrants were French-Canadians, arriving to work in the mills. Poles arrived in the 1890's, followed by German immigrants, who came mostly between 1900 and 1910. A few Russian Orthodox Jews and Greeks arrived around 1900, as well.

With the industrial expansion came commercial development, centered around High and Maple Streets, and residential development spreading out from the City center west into the Highlands, Oakdale and Elmwood neighborhoods. These neighborhoods were single-, two-, and three-family homes, while the neighborhoods immediately adjacent to the mills and downtown (South Holyoke, the Flats, Churchill, and Prospect Heights) tended to have many tenements and multi-family apartment buildings.

This migration of different cultural groups was mirrored starting in the 1960s by the movement of Puerto Ricans to Holyoke. As of the 2010 Census, more than 48% of the population identified itself as

*(Continued on page 12)*

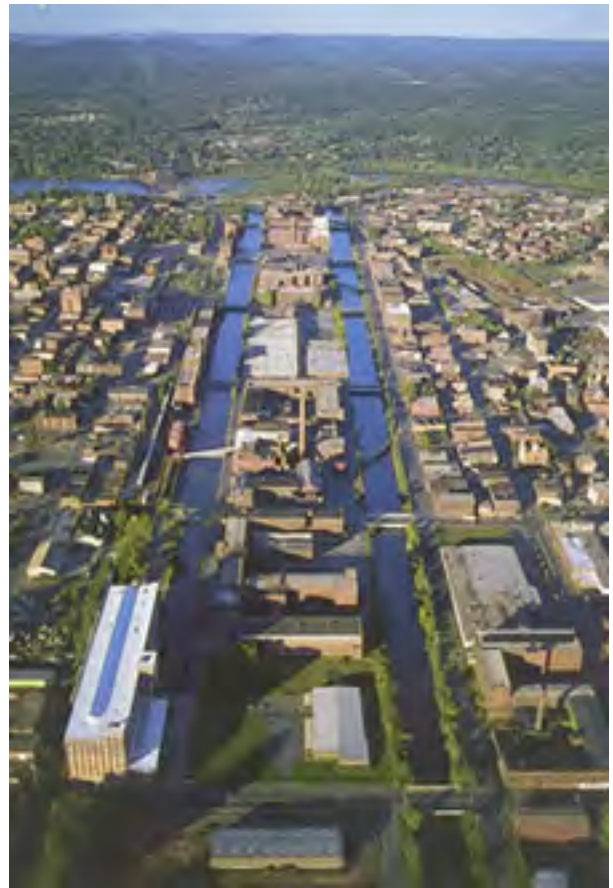
# 3 Community Setting

Hispanic, the majority of which are of Puerto Rican heritage. By contrast, 46.8 of the City's residents identified themselves as White, Non-Hispanic. This statistic represents a significant moment in the History of Holyoke, as it is the first period in the City's history when the Hispanic population represented a greater portion of the City's overall population than the Non-Hispanic portion of the overall population. Accordingly, measures were taken to ensure that outreach efforts occurred to reach this portion of the population.

Today, Holyoke strongly reflects its industrial and cultural history, with many of the mills and associated housing still standing in and near the downtown. The City still follows, in large part, the original plan proposed by the developers of the City. More recent development has filled in much of the area between the downtown and the mountains, leaving the City with a dense urban Core and a less densely developed mountain range and western half of the City.

## Volunteers Working at A Local Landmark, the Dinosaur Footprints.

Source: Trustees of Reservations



## Aerial view of the Holyoke Canal System

Source: Passport Holyoke

# 3 Community Setting

## Population Characteristics

According to Federal Census Data, in 2010 Holyoke's population was 39,880. The City's population experienced several decades of decline in the years between 1920 and 2010, but the 2010 Census (**Table 1**) demonstrates that Holyoke's population expanded for the first time since 1950. While this does represent an overall decrease from the 1920 peak, it does seem to indicate that Holyoke's population decline has begun to stabilize.

This decrease in population from the 1920 peak resulted primarily from the loss of manufacturing jobs in the City, and secondarily from the increased availability of private cars, which allowed longer commute distances, and the quest for the "American Dream" of living in suburbia to be possible. Initiatives to attract business and capitalize on Holyoke's urban, rural and scenic amenities have the potential to encourage the renewal and growth of Holyoke.

Holyoke's age composition has also changed in the past few decades; the population under 25 years old has fluctuated, but has generally stayed consistent. The age group of 25 to 64 years old has, however, increased to the highest percentage of the population since 1960, while the population above 65 has decreased. This indicates that the City will need to plan for the long-term recreational needs of an aging population, which is not inconsistent with state and national trends.

*Table 1: Population of Holyoke over Time*

Census Year	Population	% Change from previous decade
1850	3,245	---
1860	4,997	+54 %
1870	10,733	+115%
1880	21,915	+104%
1890	35,637	+63%
1900	45,712	+28%
1910	57,730	+26%
1920	60,203	+4%
1930	56,537	-6%
1940	53,570	-5%
1950	54,661	+2%
1960	52,689	-4%
1970	50,112	-5%
1980	44,678	-11%
1990	43,704	-2%
2000	39,838	-10%
2010	39,880	+1%

*Table 2: Population by Age (in percent)*

Age	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
under 5	10.0	8.5	7.1	9.4	7.9	7.7
5 - 14	16.7	18.4	15.0	15.6	16.8	13.8
15 - 24	11.7	15.8	17.6	14.5	13.6	15.1
25 - 64	47.7	42.4	42.7	43.7	46.0	49.3
65 and over	13.9	15.2	17.6	16.8	15.6	14.2

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**Table 3: Population by Race/Ethnicity (in percent)**

Race/Ethnicity	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
African-American (non-Hispanic)	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	4.6	2.4
Hispanic (of any race)	0.1	3.7	13.8	31.1	41.4	48.4
White (non-Hispanic)	98.8	94.1	83.0	65.3	54.0	46.8
Other	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.2

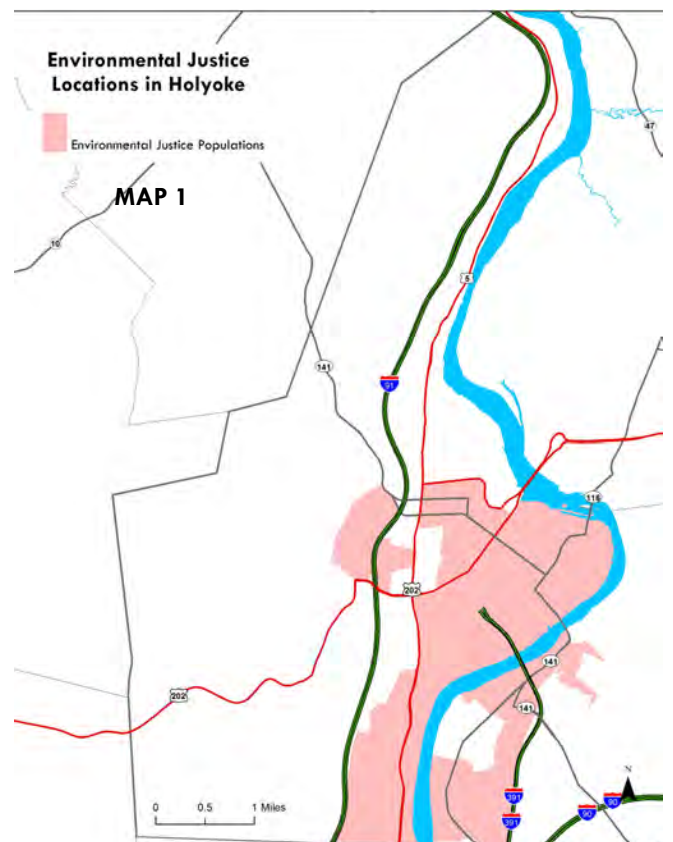
While Holyoke’s youth population has not changed significantly in the last ten years, the City continues to have a higher number of youth than neighboring communities. This demographic presents the City with an opportunity to provide high-quality youth programs.

The City has a history of being attractive for migrants and immigrants. The first wave of immigrants, from the 1870’s to the 1920’s, was mainly white, although of several different ethnic backgrounds. Since the 1960’s, migrants to the City have been largely Hispanic, with the vast majority of Puerto Rican descent. In 2010, 48.4% of the residents were Hispanic, 2.4% were African-American, and 46.8% were white. See **Table 3** for details of the change in race and ethnicity populations. This contrasts with race and ethnicity populations in the rest of the region and the Commonwealth, as seen in **Table 4**.

The number of Holyoke residents living below the poverty line has also increased. According to the 2005-2009 American Community Survey Census Data, 28.4% were living below the poverty line, up from the 1990 rate of 25.7% and 19.3% in 1980. Comparable figures for Hampden County and the Commonwealth in 2005-2009 were 16.6% and

**Table 4: Comparison of 2010 Race/Ethnicity**

Race/Ethnicity	Holyoke	Hampden County	Mass.
African-American (non-Hispanic)	2.4	7.7	6.6
Hispanic (of any race)	48.4	20.9	9.6
White (non-Hispanic)	46.8	67.7	76.1
Other	0.2	0.1	4.7





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**Table 5: Economic Characteristics<sup>1</sup>**

Economic Characteristics	Holyoke	Hampden County	Mass
Living below poverty line	28.4%	16.6% <sup>1</sup>	10.1% <sup>1</sup>
Unemployment	9.6% <sup>2</sup>	7.9% <sup>2</sup>	6.4% <sup>2</sup>
Median household income	\$34,496 <sup>1</sup>	\$47,617 <sup>1</sup>	\$64,496 <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 2005-2009 American Community Survey <sup>2</sup> Department of Labor & Workforce Development (November 2011)

10.1% respectively. The high percentage of residents living below the poverty level illustrates the critical importance of providing programming and recreational opportunities that are affordable to all sectors of the community. This information along with unemployment rates and median household income for Holyoke, Hampden County and Massachusetts can be seen in **Table 5**.

Examination of Federal Census Data by Census Tract in the City yields the observation that the lower four wards (census tracts 8114, 8115, 8116, and 8117) are considerably younger and poorer, and have higher numbers of Hispanic residents than the rest of the City. Map 1 shows that these areas have been designated as Environmental Justice populations. According to the United States Department of Transportation, planning activities “should avoid, minimize, or mitigate disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects, including social and economic effects, on minority populations and low-income populations.” To that end, deliberate efforts have been made to reach out to these locations and involve residents from these census tracts to promote full and fair participation by all potentially affected communities.



*Photo Top: Youths at Dinosaur Footprints (TTOR) ; Middle (TTOR) : youths in Veterans’ Park; Bottom: Youths in Community Garden (Nuestras Raices)*

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Holyoke's concentration of young and poor people in the lower four wards points to that area of the City as a priority for rehabilitation and maintenance of recreational opportunities.

The needs of a multi-cultural community must be considered in the planning of recreational programming. Activities must be both culturally sensitive and inclusive for all groups.

### Population Density

As a City with a strong industrial legacy, Holyoke exhibits development and population patterns that are consistent with other communities that experienced rapid growth during the 19th Century. As in other cities, this produces a community with urban, commercial and residential areas that developed around the City's base employment industries. While many of the largest mill buildings are in the process of transitioning away from the role they occupied in the 19th and 20th Centuries, the neighborhood pattern that was established continues to shape the City. For example, Holyoke has a lightly developed rural area with a low population density and a densely developed urban core with high population density. This produces a minimum of 0.144 persons per acre, a maximum of 17.88 persons per acre and an aver-

age of 3.96 persons per acre.

In Holyoke, the Smith's Ferry and Rock Valley Neighborhoods create the City's western and northern boundaries and have a population density that does not exceed 1 person per acre. Moving eastward, portions of the Highlands, Ingleside and Springdale approach 1.5 persons per acre. Portions of Homestead and Jarvis approach 2.9 persons per acre. The greatest densities occur in the Oakdale, Elmwood, Churchill, South Holyoke and Flats Neighborhoods with densities ranging from 4.2 persons per acre to 17.7 persons per acre in the Churchill Neighborhood. Generally the pattern demonstrates that Holyoke's density is greatest in its historical urban core. [Source US Census, 2010]





# 3 Community Setting

## Growth and Development Patterns

### Patterns and Trends

As described above in the History Section, Holyoke began as a farming community, but rapidly grew into a dense, industrial, urban center in the second half of the nineteenth century. The mountain range and West Holyoke retain much of their undeveloped character even today.

Current land uses in the City are mapped on Map 2. As can be seen on the map, there are industrial uses along the canals, adjacent to the Connecticut River, and in the Ingleside area. Commercial uses are concentrated along High, Maple, Main, and Northampton Streets, and at the Holyoke Mall and nearby properties. Multi-family residential areas are mainly east of Northampton Street and south of the Highlands neighborhood, while single-family homes dominate the other residential areas of the City. The mountain range and the reservoir watersheds are primarily forested and recreational lands.









Despite scatterings of commercial and industrial uses in residential areas, and vice versa, Holyoke can be characterized as having cohesive and distinct neighborhoods, with little of the unplanned mixture of land uses that nearby communities exhibit. This is primarily due to the early planned growth of the City and to the orderly development of neighborhoods since that time.

Even though the City's origins can be traced back to its unique relationship with the Connecticut River, Holyoke has only one public waterfront access along its twelve miles of riverfront. This public access point was constructed at the Jones Ferry River Access Center. Otherwise, railroads, mills, and flood control dikes prevent public access to the riverfront. (Continued on p. 18)

<b>Table 6 Land Use Statistics</b>		<b>Acres</b>
<b>Roads/Railroads</b>		<b>1,448.10</b>
<b>Residential</b>		<b>3,928.21</b>
Residential developed		2,866.83
Residential developable		614.46
Residential undevelopable		446.92
<b>Mixed-use developed</b>		<b>644.44</b>
<b>Commercial</b>		<b>533.17</b>
Commercial developed		476.16
Commercial developable		41.43
Commercial undevelopable		15.58
<b>Industrial</b>		<b>592.15</b>
Industrial developed		498.57
Industrial developable		78.00
Industrial undevelopable		15.58
<b>Municipal Gov't/Nonprofit</b>		<b>1,229.18</b>
<b>Open space</b>		<b>5,992.19</b>
Chapter 61		325.79
State owned land (DEM, DEP, DFW)		2,242.72
Conservation Commission Land		35.32
Holyoke owned Park & Recreation Land		244.76
Private Recreational (non-Chapter 61)		36.23
Watershed – Holyoke Water Works		2,402.74
West Springfield		142.10
Holyoke Gas & Electric		562.53
Developed/Protected		92%
<b>Total Acres</b>		<b>14,367.44</b>

MAP 2



-  Vacant Land/Open Space
-  Low Density Residential
-  High Density Residential
-  Mixed Use
-  Municipal/Non-profit/Religious
-  Commercial
-  Industrial
-  Other Developed

Holyoke Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2012 Update

# Current Land Use Map

# 3 Community Setting

Public investments, such as the Jones Ferry River Access Center, have the potential to make the river a more regular component of daily life in Holyoke. Supporting the construction of the Connecticut River Greenway, which would parallel the river from Agawam and Longmeadow through Springfield, Chicopee and Holyoke to Northampton, represents one possible opportunity for targeting public funds at the expansion of public access. In Holyoke, the Greenway would connect with existing and future developments of the Holyoke Canal walk, which is a pedestrian loop along the two upper canals. Connections to Northampton and Chicopee have not been finalized and planning needs to be conducted to facilitate these connections.

Holyoke's early success as an industrial center, along with the environmental limitations of the River and Mountain range have resulted in limited availability of easily developed land. Despite these limitations development has continued throughout the City, most of which is within the City's preexisting industrial and commercial core. See *Table 6 Summary of Land Uses on page 17*. The City actively pursues development of existing downtown sites, including those that are considered Brownfield Sites, which often create additional much-needed space for existing businesses to expand in the downtown.

Outside of Downtown Holyoke, the Ingleside neighborhood has been a major source of economic development in the City, and it is likely to continue to be a source of economic activity due to its proximity to Interstates 90 and 91. Opportunities remain for commercial, office and light industrial development in this portion of the City.

Compared to neighboring communities, residential development over the last 10 years in Holyoke has been slow, which is a product of the shortage of easily developed land in the City. Table 7 and the relevant graph for Building Permits Issued 2000-2011 illustrate this point. Holyoke differs from surrounding communities when one considers that the majority of residential development has been infill development

**Table 7 Building Permits Issued**

Year	Permits
<b>2000</b>	<b>8</b>
Residential	7
<b>2001</b>	<b>20</b>
Residential	16
<b>2002</b>	<b>41</b>
Residential	39
<b>2003</b>	<b>53</b>
Residential	51
<b>2004</b>	<b>54</b>
Residential	49
<b>2005</b>	<b>33</b>
Residential	31
<b>2006</b>	<b>19</b>
Residential	17
<b>2007</b>	<b>17</b>
Residential	15
<b>2008</b>	<b>12</b>
Residential	9
<b>2009</b>	<b>20</b>
Residential	13
<b>2010</b>	<b>10</b>
Residential	9
<b>2011</b>	<b>12</b>
Residential	7

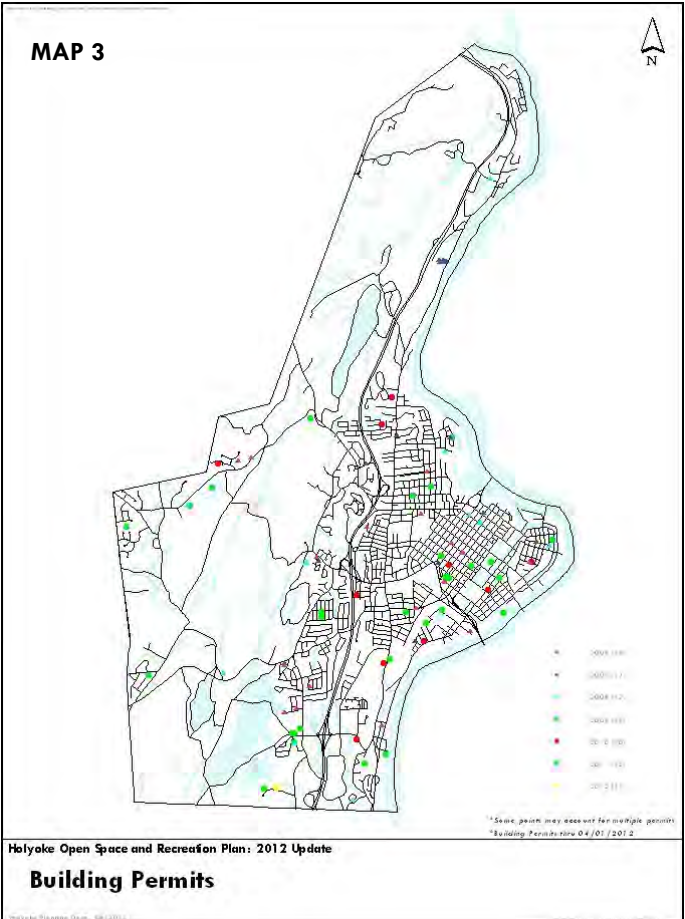
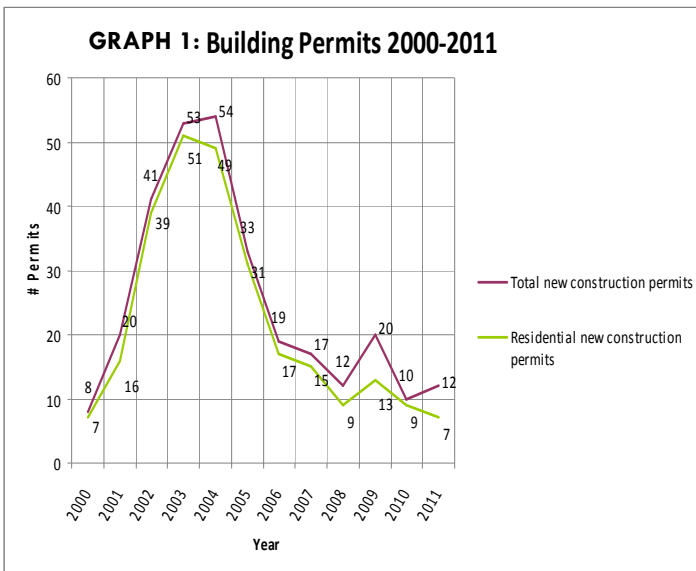
# 3 Community Setting

and rehabilitation of existing structures. The success of this infill has been aided by the Downtown Residential Zone (DR) which provides flexible dimensional regulations to ensure that new structures are consistent with the existing built environment. This has established the City as a leader in the promotion of Smart Growth. See Map 3, Graph 1 and Table 7 which illustrate the building permits issued for new structures from 2000-2011 within the City, show the disbursement of building permits, and reveal the extent of infill in the City.

The data demonstrates that economic activity continues regardless of the fact that a large percentage of the easily developable land in Holyoke already has been developed. Infill development, redevelopment and re-investment in the City's urban core have become a significant mode of economic activity, which highlights that the City is capable of adapting to its shortage of easily developed land.

As seen in Table 6, more than ninety percent of the City's land is either developed or protected from development. Once the environmental and physical limitations are added, the available developable land is only ten percent of the City's total acreage. City will need to look for ways to both provide development opportunities while maintaining pristine

wilderness areas for preservation and recreation. To accomplish this, downtown redevelopment, brown-field redevelopment and infill development will continue to be a major focus of the City's growth strategy.



**Industries and Employment Trends**  
 According to the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's data center, Holyoke's residents work in a wide range of sectors. As of 2009, there were 20,945 residents with jobs. The Service sector employed the greatest percentage (26.9% - 5,645 jobs) of the City's residents. Health Care and Social Assistance employed the second greatest number of residents, with 24.5%, or 5,124 jobs, represented. The third largest employment category could be

*(Continued on page 21)*



# 3 Community Setting

found in Wholesale/Retail, with 19.9%, or 4,170, of the City's residents working in that capacity. Manufacturing is still a component of the City's employment base, but only 8.6% of the City's workers work in manufacturing. Unemployment, reflective of the broader national economic picture, is up to 10.7% in 2012 from the historic low of 3.2% of 2000. The average weekly wage for Holyoke's residents in 2010 was \$713. Unemployment peaked at 12.5% in January of 2010. Since then, the direction of the data tends to indicate that the employment picture is improving at the same rate as the national economy, with the unemployment level dropping but still staying at historically high levels.

## Zoning

West of the City center, zones consists mostly of single and multifamily districts with small pockets of commercial zoning along Northampton Street (Route 5), and neighborhood commercial areas districts throughout the City. Larger lots with residential zoning are located to the north of the City and to the west of the mountain range. These districts to the west have been restricted through zoning to protect the Barnes aquifer and require new lots to have at least 2 acres of minimum lot size and 200 feet of frontage. The City's retail and industrial park zoning is located in the southeast section of the City, just north of Interstate 91 and Interstate 90. The City's industrial and manufacturing zones are located in the City's historical manufacturing district, along the banks of Holyoke's canal system and west of the Connecticut River. The City's densest residential zoning, which allows for the greatest height and the most relaxed parking regulations, can be found in Downtown in the vicinity Beech Street, North Bridge Street and Jackson Street.

It should be noted that the City has several special overlay districts established for the protection of natural resources and the promotion of economic development. In the western portion of the City, the Water Resource Protection Overlay District protects the Barnes Aquifer, while the Surface Water Protection Overlay District limits uses that would be detri-

mental to the City's surface water supplies. In the eastern portion of the City, in downtown, the Arts & Industry Overlay District, which roughly tracks those parcels that abut the historic canal system, is designed to promote the reuse and redevelopment of the City's mills, while the Smart Growth Zoning Overlay District is designed to take advantage of the City's transit nodes (PVTA's transportation center and the soon-to-be-constructed train platform) along Dwight Street and encourage mixed-use development. It should be noted that there is a Floodplain Overlay District that has been established to prevent development in hazard-prone 100-year floodways.

Taken together, Holyoke's zoning is designed to promote economic development and redevelopment in the City's existing commercial, residential and industrial districts while preserving fragile ecosystems and water resources. The primary goal of promoting this pattern of economic development is to preserve Holyoke's scenic and natural beauty while encouraging the active use and reuse of the City's historic urban landscape.

## Transportation System

Holyoke has several major highways: Interstate 91, with three exits in Holyoke, stretches north to south east of the mountain range and west of most of the urbanized portion of the City. State Highway 5 parallels I-91 to the east. Before I-91 was built, Route 5 was the major north-south road in the Connecticut River Valley. Interstate 391 starts in downtown Springfield, runs north through Chicopee, and ends in Holyoke at the south end of High Street. Just south of the Holyoke city line, the Massachusetts Turnpike, Interstate 90, runs east-west through West Springfield. The intersection of these two routes has resulted in intense economic activity. For example: the Holyoke Mall was constructed to take advantage of the intersection of I-91 and the MassPike.

State Highway 141 runs from the Easthampton town line northwest of the City, over the Mount Tom/East Mountain range, through downtown Holyoke into

*(Continued on page 22)*

# 3 Community Setting

Chicopee. State Highway 202 starts at the Westfield town line and runs east through downtown to cross the Connecticut River on the Mueller Bridge into South Hadley. State Highway 116 crosses the river from South Hadley Falls to downtown Holyoke on the County Bridge, runs briefly south through the industrial section of the City, and re-crosses the river into Chicopee on the Willimansett Bridge.

The newly redeveloped Holyoke Transportation Center located on Maple Street in downtown, opened in August 2010. The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority operates out of this location with ten bus routes throughout Holyoke, connecting to Westfield, Easthampton, Northampton, South Hadley, Chicopee, West Springfield, and Springfield. Peter Pan Bus Lines also offers intercity service at the Transportation Center. The mixed use facility serves as the main transportation hub in the City with transit connections to the region, New England, and beyond. The potential exists to link this transportation hub with passenger rail service, once the commuter rail platform is constructed on Dwight Street. The Pan AM Southern Right of Way serves the industrial downtown with connections north to Northampton and northward, and south to Chicopee, Springfield, and southward. The Pioneer Valley Railroad is a local line, running westward from downtown.

Holyoke will have passenger rail platform at the end of Dwight Street by 2014. This rail line will maintain freight service but will be served by Amtrak for passenger rail starting Spring 2014. The construction of a passenger rail platform will promote infill development and brownfields redevelopment in Holyoke's urban core.

It is not likely for air travel to become a significant component of Holyoke's daily travel matrix. Bradley Airport, near Hartford, Connecticut, is the closest major airport, approximately 20 miles south of Holyoke. The Barnes Airport in Westfield and Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee are general aviation airports, which serve private, military and corporate aircraft.



With little public transportation to West Holyoke, residents must rely on their own means of transportation. The lack of public transportation therefore limits residency in West Holyoke to those with means for private transportation. The Council on Aging operates a shuttle service for senior citizens who are not capable of driving or accessing public transportation nodes.

As noted above, the intersection of Interstate 91 and 90 creates a transportation node that is highly amenable to commercial development. Business centers with a regional draw (i.e. the Mall at Ingle-side) have chosen, and will most likely continue to choose, Holyoke for this reason.

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# 3 Community Setting

Just as Holyoke's proximity to Interstates 90 and 91 makes Holyoke an attractive location for commercial development, two major pedestrian-oriented networks pass through Holyoke and provide the City with an opportunity to create a unique interface between Holyoke's urban environment and its extant and adjacent woodlands.

Map 4 demonstrates how the long distance New England Scenic Trail (NET) and the Manhan Rail Trail intersect to the north of Holyoke. The NET is a 215-mile hiking trail that travels through 39 communities in Connecticut and Massachusetts. The route features classic New England landscape features: long distance vistas with rural towns as a backdrop, agrarian lands, unfragmented forests, and large river valleys. The Manhan Rail Trail is a six mile bike path connects to the Norwottuck Rail Trail and the broader 104-Mile Massachusetts Central Rail Trail. While far off, the potential to construct linkages between Holyoke and these two long distance features could conceivably allow residents of Holyoke to walk or bike from their homes in Downtown Holyoke and to any destination in the Commonwealth. The 2012 OSRP Survey indicated that there is strong support for strengthening the City's pedestrian trail network: 91.7% of survey respondents stated that they supported the creation of new multi-use paths in the City.

## Water Supply System

Holyoke Water Works, a city entity, operates and maintains the municipal water supply and distribution system. Four reservoirs supply four pressure zones within the City. Almost the entire City is supplied with municipal water; less than 1% of City residents, mostly in the West Holyoke and Smith's Ferry areas, have private wells.

The four reservoirs are the McLean, Whiting Street, Ashley, and Tighe-Carmody (Manhan) Reservoirs. The four pressure zones are the High Service, Low Service, West Heights, and West Holyoke zones. The Tighe-Carmody Reservoir, located in the Town of Southampton, is the primary source of water for the



Photo: View of Mount Tom from Whiting Street Reservoir

City. The reservoir has a surface area of 365 acres, a storage capacity of 4.8 billion gallons, and a watershed area of 14.5 square miles. It has an estimated safe yield of 13 million gallons per day. A 42-inch transmission main carries water from this reservoir to a treatment facility located next to the McLean Reservoir.

The other three reservoirs are all located within the City limits. The Ashley Reservoir, with an estimated safe yield of 2.1 million gallons per day, is a feeder reservoir to the McLean Reservoir. The McLean Reservoir, located just west of Ashley Reservoir, is at a higher elevation and water must be pumped from Ashley to McLean. From McLean, with an estimated safe yield of 0.5 million gallons a day, water can be treated at the facility and distributed to customers.

Although it is not currently on-line, the Whiting Street Reservoir, off Route 141, has an estimated safe yield of 1.6 million gallons a day. Like the Ashley Reservoir, the Whiting Street reservoir is a very popular destination for hikers, joggers and bicyclists. Officially, none of the reservoir watersheds can be used for active recreation, but the watersheds are used daily by hikers and nature lovers. In the past, interest has been expressed for making Whiting Street Reservoir a destination for boating, fishing and swimming. However, Whiting Street is currently

*(Continued on page 24)*

# 3 Community Setting

a back-up source of water and if the City wishes to retain this reservoir as a back-up water source, the state will not allow any water-dependent recreation to take place, although there may be the possibility of land-based use, if there is no threat of contamination to the water supply.

Unlike most municipalities throughout the world, the City is drinking water wealthy. The loss of large industrial users in the past and the overall population decline has left the City with an abundance of drinking water. The per capita consumption of water is currently at 42 gallons/day, or 1.6 million gallons per day for the entire City. On a global scale, Holyoke's relative abundance of drinking water is incredibly rare. Future economic decisions regarding the role of the reservoir system in Holyoke's daily life should consider that fact that Holyoke has access to one of the global economy's most important commodities.

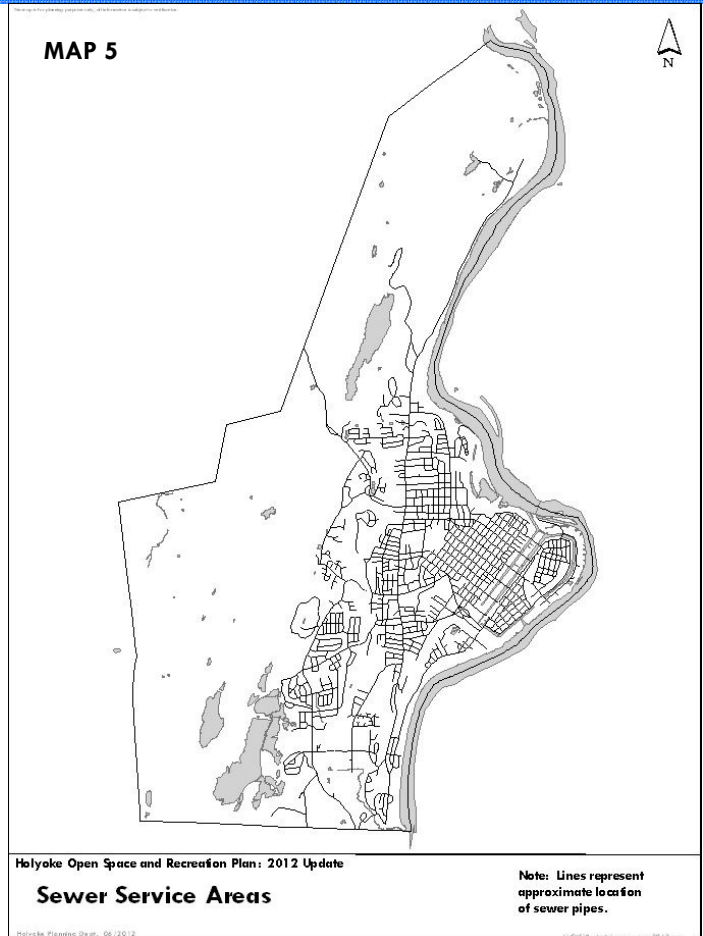
## Sewer Service

Sewer service is provided for the more densely developed areas of Holyoke. Areas not serviced include West Holyoke and a small part of Smith's Ferry. See Map 5, Sewer Service Areas. An expanded primary plant has allowed for an increase in industrial development in the Ingleside area as well as additional residential development in the Whiting Farms area. Currently there are no plans for expansion of sewer service in West Holyoke or Smith's Ferry.

The lack of sewer service in West Holyoke limits development in the area. Current zoning in West Holyoke is predominantly Residential-Agriculture, which requires 2-acre lots to protect the Barnes Aquifer.

## Combined Sewer Overflows

As an developed community with a sewer system over one hundred years old, the City of Holyoke inherited a Combined Sewer Overflow system (see Map 6). When the OSRP was updated in 2005, this system had fifteen CSOs that were discharging a



total of 700 to 850 million gallons of wastewater over 52-80 times annually to the Connecticut River. Since then, the City has contracted with United Water to manage the day-to-day operations of the City's wastewater system, the scope of this 20-year contract included provisions that allowed United Water to manage the CSO-abatement process.

In 2001, EPA issued an administrative order to the City to reduce the total amount of discharges and to complete the process of separating the stormwater run-off flows from sewage. The estimated cost to rectify the discharges is \$44-78 million. The EPA ordered the City to stop the flow of Day Brook and Green Brook into the city's wastewater treatment plant, and to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant wet weather capacity. The separation of

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# 3 Community Setting

Green Brook was completed in 2002. In January 2005, the EPA delivered an Administrative Order to the City ordering it to begin the process of eliminating the Berkshire Street CSO.

In the interim, the City has eliminated two CSOs on the Connecticut River and constructed a CSO abatement facility in 2007 at the most significant CSO located on Berkshire Street, which was at one time the largest CSO on the river. The CSO abatement facility at this location treats a maximum of 113 million gallons per day and prevents 480 million gallons of combined storm and wastewater effluent per year from entering the river. These efforts have resulted in the removal of approximately 500 million gallons CSO effluent and represents progress in enhancing the water quality of the Connecticut River. Prior to the construction of the facility on Berkshire Street, viruses, bacteria, industrial waste, toxic materials, solid wastes, sediments and trash entered the River.

### Commonwealth Capital and Smart Growth

The Massachusetts Commonwealth Capital program evaluates how well a community's planning and zoning initiatives and actions follow the state's sustainable development principles, as related to smart growth. The City of Holyoke completed its Commonwealth Capital certification to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 2011. The City was notified that it received a total score of 115; ranking it number five in the Commonwealth. As a portion of the score, the City received points for having more than 25% of land area protected by a permanent restriction. Holyoke also received points for the efforts of the Water Department in water conservation. Having a high Commonwealth Capital score helps the City in receiving available grant funding. The Commonwealth Capital program was suspended for FY2012.

### Long-term Development Patterns

Empirically, Holyoke is a built-out city, yet there are areas, particularly in West Holyoke, on the mountain range, in Ingleside, and in Smith's Ferry, where further development is possible. Developable land is

MAP 6



Holyoke Open Space and Recreation Plan: 2012 Update  
**Combined Sewer Overflow**

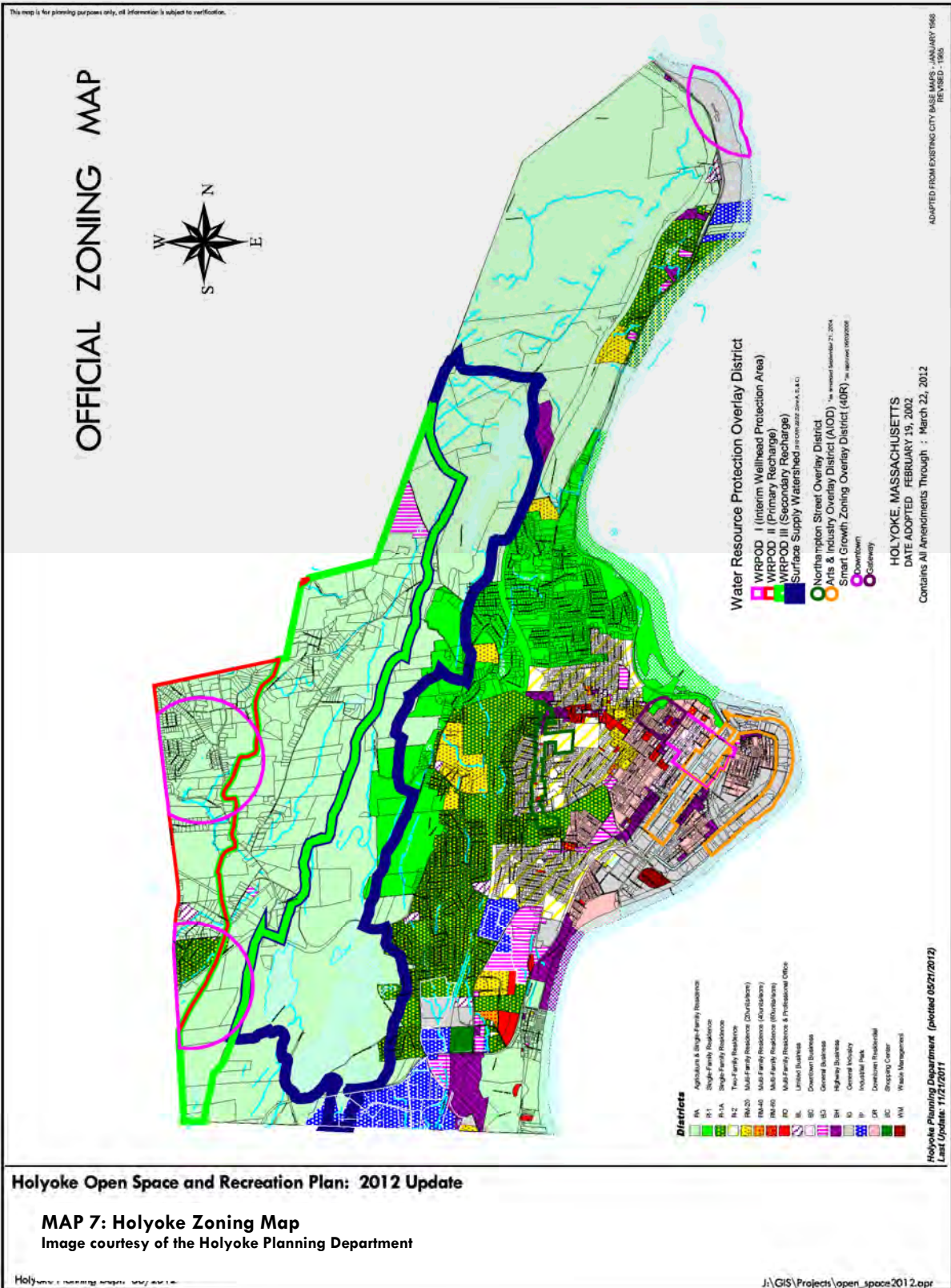
mostly flat, supplied with municipal water and sewer, and easily accessible, and there are only a few remaining parcels like this in Holyoke. As a result development that will most likely take place will most likely be on existing vacant urban lots or on environmentally constrained rural parcels. This presents Holyoke with a regionally-unique set of development parameters.

West Holyoke has the potential for more single-family homes, but this would negatively impact the scenic beauty and eliminate rare natural resources of the area—such as nationally and regionally-significant farmland—and the purity and quantity of water from the Barnes Aquifer. In the next decade, Ingleside is likely to receive more commercial and

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# 3 Community Setting



# 3 Community Setting

industrial development. However, redevelopment will likely be a component of this work, as is evidenced by the approval in 2012 of a 110,000 square foot commercial center on Lower Westfield Road on land that once contained a large manufacturing facility. Smith's Ferry may see some development of housing, but it is likely to be very little. See Map 7 for the current zoning of these areas.

In the four downtown neighborhoods --the Flats, South Holyoke, Churchill, and Prospect Heights--there is a high number of vacant lots and buildings. This is both a strength and a weakness. For example, some of these parcels are rapidly being renovated with nationally-significant projects, such as the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center, as well as a variety of housing units. The redevelopment of downtown for housing and commercial development is trend that the City is actively promoting through the implementation of Tax Increment Financing Districts and the Arts and Innovation Overlay District.

## Agriculture, Arts and Sustainability

Through integrating gardening, open space, recreation and arts into the built environment, the City is in the process of promoting a healthier environment for its residents. Currently, the City and its non-profit partners are developing opportunities for active play, passive recreation, sustainable businesses and

the creative economy. These actions are a key component of the City's efforts to promote the healthy and economic well-being of the City's residents. Listening to feedback from this plan and continuing efforts to expand pedestrian walkways, gardens, bikeways, and play areas will create an overall more healthy and fitness-positive community.

These actions will require some change, and as development shifts the landscape in Downtown Holyoke, the opportunity exists to convert some of formerly vacant parcels, pending proper environmental permitting, into neighborhood amenities. For example, Map 8 demonstrates that significant work has already occurred to place community gardens inside Environmental Justice communities. Survey results indicate that 85% of Holyoke's residents were supportive of efforts to promote neighborhood gardens as a means for promoting local agricultural options.

The City, its residents, and various organizations are very active in the promoting community gardens throughout the City. These community gardens combine with the City's urban agriculture initiatives to work towards establishing a more localized and healthy food system. Fostering this healthy food system will diversify the availability of food sources available to the City's most needy populations. This is significant because 88.5% of 2012 OSRP Survey Respondents indicated that the availability of locally grown produce is important to them.

To that end, funding is continuously being sought to assess potential locations of new community gardens which will add to these efforts. Additionally, innovative methods for bringing urban agriculture to downtown neighborhoods are being incorporated into City documents, grants and plans, such as the OSRP, to build capacity for local food access.

In the interim between the 2005 OSRP and the 2012 OSRP, the City received a Food and Fitness Policy Grant from the Kellogg Foundation to improve local food access and food security in low-income



Photo: Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center/VHB

*(Continued on page 28)*

# 3 Community Setting

neighborhoods and underserved populations. Implementation of community gardens is a main goal of the Community Action Plan. The City also recently completed an Innovation-Based Economic Development Strategy, which includes action items for growing the agricultural economy of Holyoke and making it a strong economic sector to support financial success of residents and to further provide food security. As demonstrated in recent community surveys, there is strong support for increasing the City's diversity of local food sources.

As a Green Community, the City is also actively developing renewable energy sources to position itself for the 21st Century's changing energy needs. For example, the City, through HG&E, has constructed two solar facilities that generate 4.5 megawatts of electricity, which generate enough energy to power approximately 1,200 homes with clean, carbon-natural fuel. The Dam itself generates between 60 and 75% of the City's energy needs, which allows the city to supply a renewable energy to consumers at a much lower cost than many of its competitors. This was a major contributing factor to the selection



(Continued on page 29)



# 3 Community Setting

of Holyoke as the location of the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center. The Construction of the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center and Holyoke's relative abundance of renewable energy have the potential to make Holyoke a significant location for green technology and information technology businesses, and the City is actively working to integrate these businesses into its local financial and corporate ecosystem.

## Land Use Trends

In 2000, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs completed Build-out Analyses for each of the cities and towns in Massachusetts based on current zoning laws. Holyoke's build out analysis indicates that at build-out the City would have 58,336 residents and 22,871 households. The water usage would increase from a current usage of 6,651,284 to 8,715,886 gallons per day. The schools would see 3,200 additional students and the

City would be home to 6,661 additional residential units. An additional 5,375 acres of land is available for development. An additional 9,490 tons of solid waste would be generated each year. These numbers are intended to represent a maximum-development scenario for the Community and do not take time or economic factors into consideration. Nevertheless, it does provide one way to understand the ways in which the City's needs might grow and change in the years ahead.

To place this in context, in the past 30 years the Planning Board has reviewed and approved three subdivision plans. The Deer Run Estates Subdivision, which includes eight homes off Southampton Road in West Holyoke, was approved in 2003 and the last home was constructed in 2007. Michelle Lane was approved in 2004 for eight homes near Cherry Street and Jarvis Avenue. This subdivision has yet to be completed, but has resulted in the permanent protection



Photo: View from Mount Tom (The Trustees)

# 3 Community Setting

of approximately 85-acres of land in Priority Habitat pursuant to Massachusetts Endangered Species Act permitting through the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife purchased this land in 2005. In 2009, the Robby Circle Subdivision was approved for one new home, located off of County Road. A building permit has been issued as of December 2011, and construction is currently in process.

The City approved one large-scale housing project in the last five years in 2006. Riverview Estates, located directly off of Northampton Street, was originally approved for the construction of 42 units. Twelve units have been developed to date.

This is just one measure of economic activity, though. By contrast, the Conservation Commission has reviewed and issued 82 large scale wetlands permits since 2000. These permits review a broad scale of economic activity that would not normally fall under the purview of the Planning Board and range from brownfields remediation projects to large scale commercial developments; taken together, this indicates that economic activity is consistent, but that it might not necessarily result in the construction of new housing units or new large-scale subdivisions.

As the City continues to grow, it is likely that open space issues, wildlife habitat and wetlands concerns will be a factor that shape the outcome of development activity. For example, as Map 9 shows, most of the remaining private, undeveloped land contains either wetlands, land that is adjacent to wetlands, Priority Species Habitat, 100-year floodplain, vernal pools, watershed lands or steep slopes. It should be noted that land within 100 feet from a wetland is not off-limits to development; development is possible, but wetlands permits are necessary. It should also be noted that the City of Holyoke has a 50-foot No-Build Zone around wetlands, as per the City's local wetlands ordinance, which, effectively, makes this area off-limits without the issuance of a variance from the Commission. However, the objective of the City is to

maintain focused on fueling downtown re-investment and redevelopment, which will leave wild areas intact.





















If current trends continue, development in the next five years is likely consist of a mixture of residential and mixed-use units located in the urban core, brownfields redevelopment in urban and rural properties and renewable energy development in the rural, western portion of the City. It is worth noting, that a substantial majority of the City's residents (72.2%) expressed support for redeveloping Holyoke's Urban Center in the 2012 OSRP Survey. The City's infrastructure investment policies are aligned with this interest, as there are no new plans to expand City water, City sewer or City streets into new sections of the City.

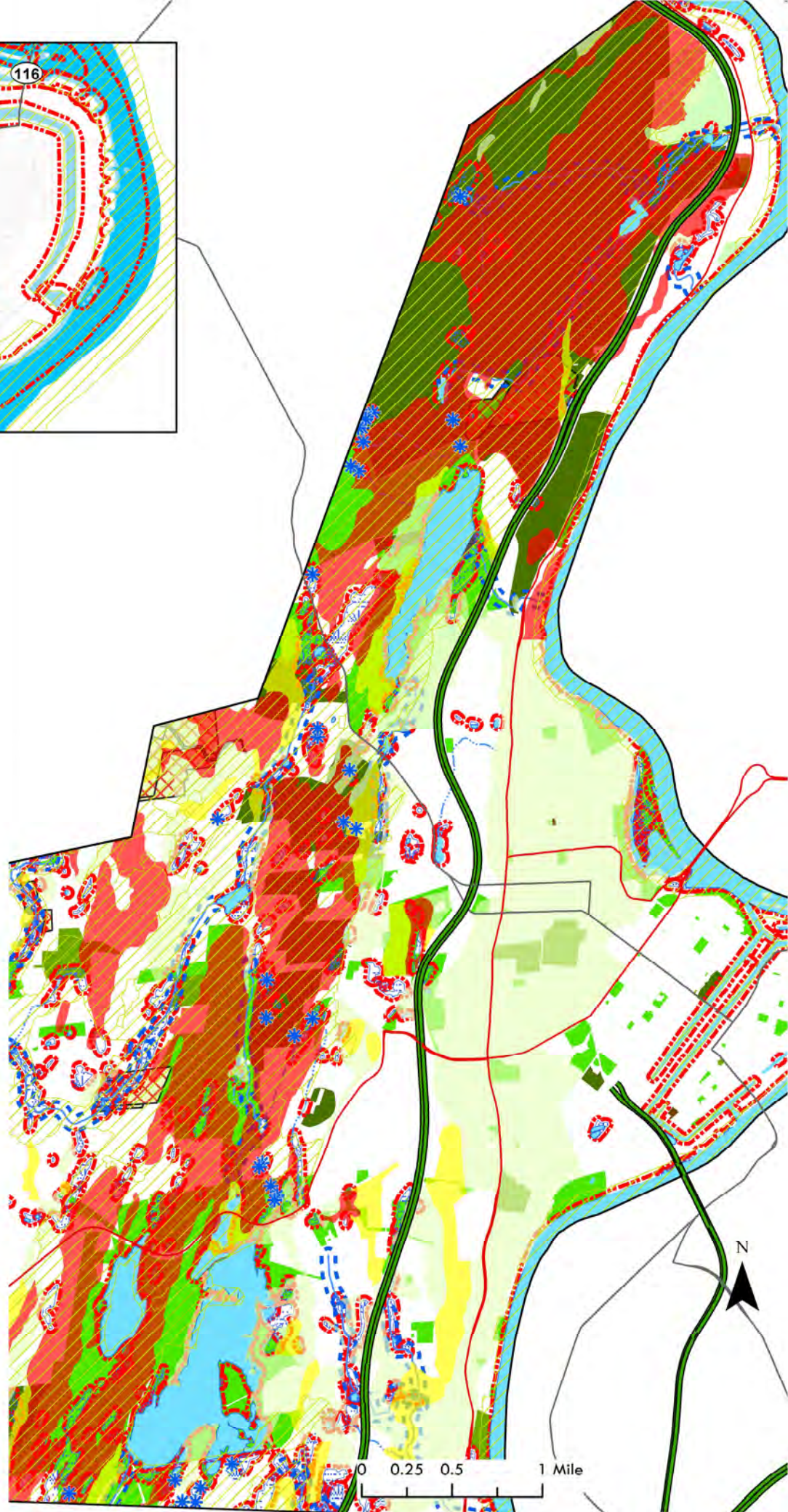




# MAP 9: Development Constraints

## Legend

-  NHESP Certified Vernal Pools
-  NHESP Habitat
- Slope**
- Steepness**
-  8-15%
-  15-25%
-  25-35%
-  Pond, Lake, Ocean; Reservoir
-  Dam
-  Perennial Stream
-  Intermittent Stream
-  Shoreline
-  Riverfront Resource Area
-  100ft Buffer
-  CR
-  State and Federal
-  Non-Profit
-  Private
-  State and Federal
-  Non-Profit
-  Municipal
-  Private





# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

## Geology Soils and Topography

### 1. Geology

The topography of Holyoke shows its long and complicated geologic history. During the Ordovician era, about four or five hundred million years ago, the bedrock of the Connecticut River valley was laid down by explosive volcanic eruptions. About 350 million years ago, during the Devonian period, drifting continental plates collided in the general neighborhood of New England and formed the New England Appalachian Mountains. As Richard Little describes it in his book *Dinosaurs, Dunes, and Drifting Continents*, “The folding, faulting, metamorphism, and rockmelting of this period produced the most complicated geology in New England. Unraveling the history of this mixed-up assemblage requires patience, perseverance, and a good imagination.” (p. 16). The end of this massive conglomeration of continents unified virtually all of the world’s landmass as the super-continent of Pangaea.

Somewhere around 200 million years ago, Pangaea began to drift apart. The cracks were the beginning of the Atlantic Ocean and, as part of the geologic stresses; the Connecticut Valley was formed by the Eastern Border Fault. This fault lifted the hills to the east of the valley and lowered the valley floor itself, perhaps by as much as a total of 15,000 feet over the course of 85 million years. Erosion of this cliff on the eastern edge of the valley deposited considerable sediment, resulting in up to 16,000 feet of sedimentary rock, on the valley floor. It is in this sedimentary rock that the dinosaur footprints along Rt. 5 in Holyoke were formed.

At the same time as this faulting and erosion was going on, during the Mesozoic era, volcanoes started creating the basalt ridges we now know as Mt. Tom and East Mountain:

“The Holyoke Range, our major monument to volcanic activity, is a series of flows, ash, and interbedded sediments... Its foundation is two flows of Holyoke Basalt, 320 and 255 feet thick. Major source vents were located northwest of Mt. Hitchcock... A small vent, with five hundred-foot-long lava ‘dribbles’ draped over its edge, was revealed during construction of Route 91 near Mountain Park and is preserved in the north lane road cut. Moderate explosive activity followed the Holyoke flows as erupting cinder cones spread volcanic ash (known as the Granby tuff) over the landscape. The most violent activity occurred northeast of Mountain Park at Smith’s Ferry where explosions transported blocks of lava reaching lengths of 1 to 3 feet.”

Little, 1986, p. 30



Trustees of Reservations Dinosaur Foot Prints, Source: FTOR



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

By about 145 million years ago, in the beginning of the Cretaceous period, the valley created by the Eastern Border Fault was entirely filled by sediment washed into it by rivers and streams. In fact, almost all of the terrain around the valley was eroded to virtual flatness as well, except for a few resistant rocks, the monadnocks, such as Mt. Greylock and Mt. Monadnock itself. In the Late Miocene, about 10 million years ago, this flat peneplain began to arch upward several thousand feet. The existing rivers and streams flowed faster as a result, joining together in the Connecticut Valley to become the present-day Connecticut River.

During the Pleistocene epoch, beginning about two million years ago, glaciers covered the Northeast as far south as New England. About 13,700 years ago, a retreating glacier left a dam of stratified till across its valley near Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Behind this dam an enormous lake was created,

eventually stretching 150 miles north to near Lyme, New Hampshire. Sediment from Glacial Lake Hitchcock forms the rich soils in the Connecticut River valley today--some of the best agricultural soils in the world. Lake Hitchcock disappeared when the dam near Rocky Hill broke about 10,700 years ago. Some of what is now West Holyoke and the lower four wards of downtown Holyoke was under Lake Hitchcock. The rest of the City was covered by the various glaciers, but not by Lake Hitchcock. It was only after Lake Hitchcock started draining that the Connecticut River, more or less as we know it today, started eroding its channel through the lake bottom sediments south towards the ocean.

Map 10 Shows that the volcanic activity in Holyoke's prehistoric past left behind igneous rock (basalt) and sedimentary rocks (Calpelite and Mesozoic Basin Sedimentary) as the underlying bedrock for the community. Basalt rocks have commercial value as an ingredient in the concrete and flooring industries, as evidenced by the recent closure of a quarrying and mining operation on Mount Tom.

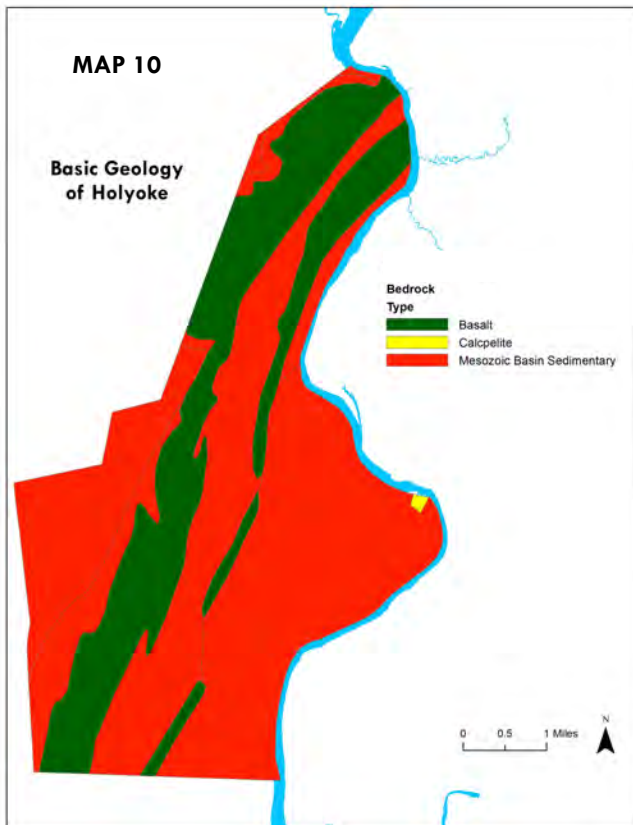
## 2. Soils

Three general soil types cover the majority of the City:

- Urban soils, which make up more than three quarters of the City east of the mountain range;
- Rocky outcrops; which stretch north-south along the Mount Tom/East Mountain range and parallel hills; and
- Important agricultural soils, which cover a surprisingly large area in West Holyoke, west of the mountain range, as well as some areas in the Ingleside neighborhood.

The rest of the City is made up of other soil types

*(Continued on page 34)*



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

less easily grouped, but one such minor grouping is of soils that are wet or flood prone. All of the rocky outcrop and wet/flood prone soils have severe limitations for on-site sewage disposal systems (i.e., leach fields), as do many of the other soil types in the City. *Map 11* shows the location of the City's prime agricultural soils and *Map 12* shows the generalized soil types in the City. Appendix A: Soil Types lists all of the individual soils with a short description.

The soils maps demonstrate that the area between Mount Tom and the river is already built upon (urban soils) and that Mount Tom, the "spine of the City," cannot be significantly developed without extraordinary expense or environmental hazard due to the presence of rocky outcrops. What remains is the western and southern portion of the City, where a surprisingly diverse concentration of significant agricultural soils have been identified. It is also worth noting here that a large amount of the City's prime agricultural soils have been developed (*Map 10*). However, there are a few remaining parcels with agricultural soils that could be targeted for preservation efforts. According to the 2012 OSRP Survey, preservation of rural character and agricultural lands is the second-highest conservation priority for residents after the preservation of natural resources and habitat.



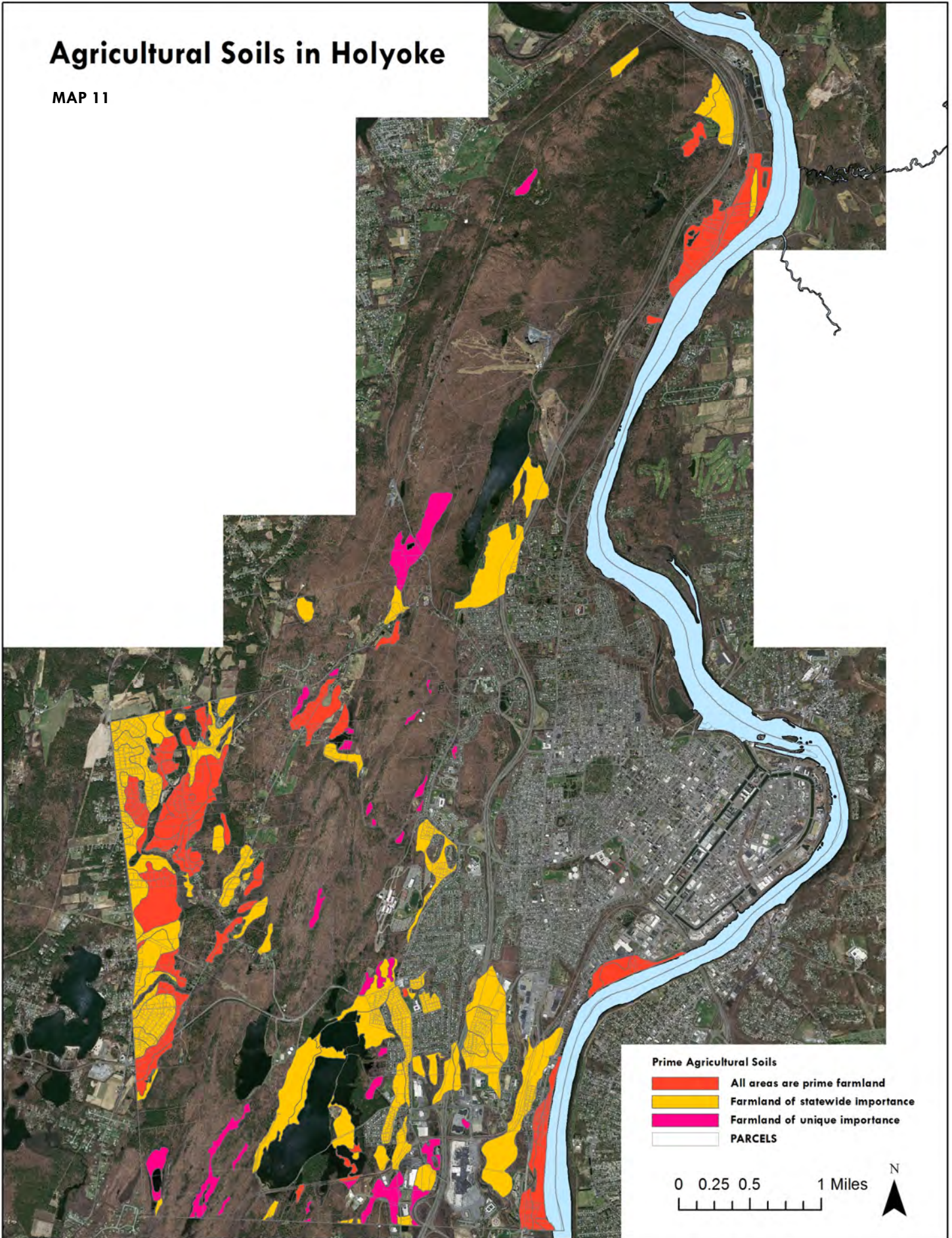
Photos: top, left, bottom Land of Providence Farm (TTOR)





# Agricultural Soils in Holyoke

MAP 11





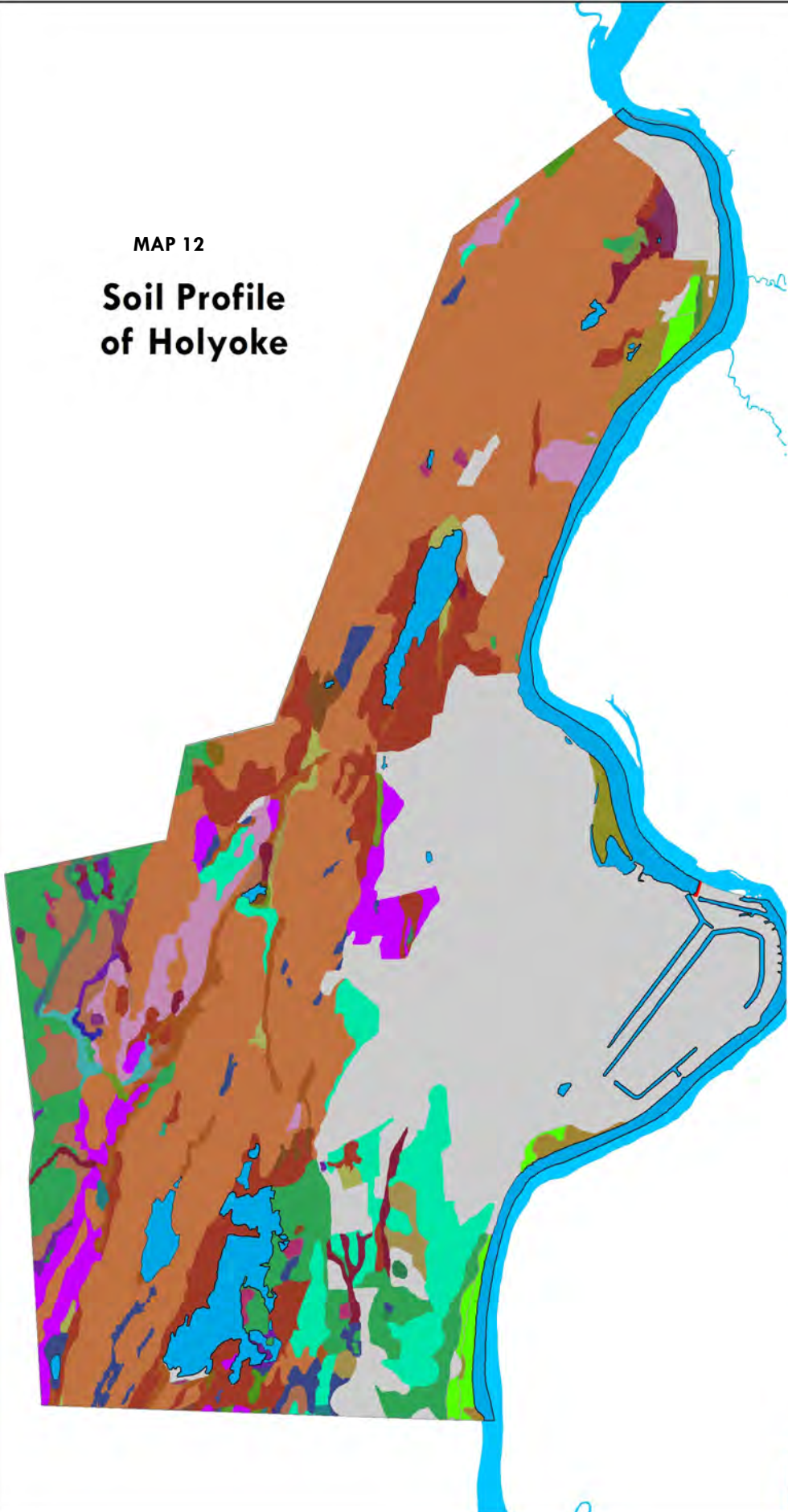
MAP 12  
**Soil Profile  
of Holyoke**

**Soil Groupings in Holyoke**

**Soils**

**Type**

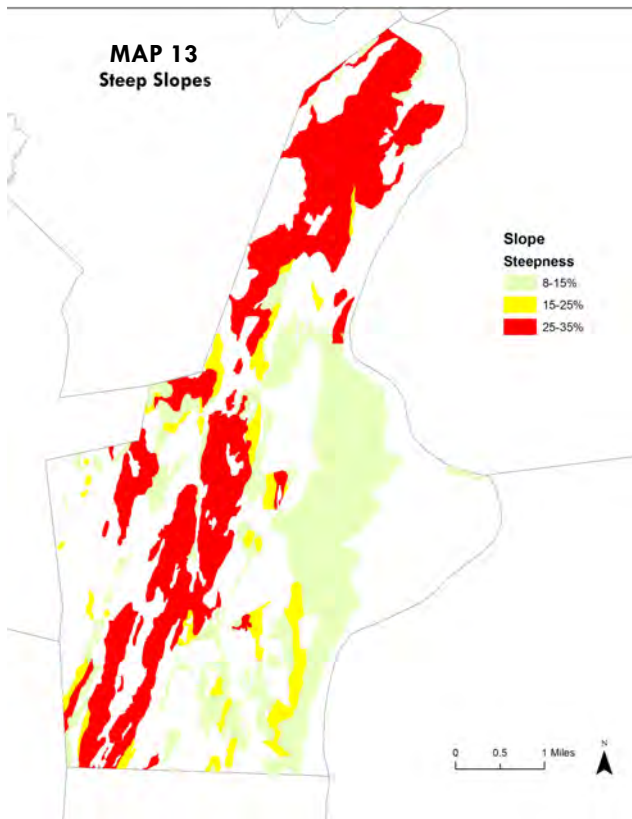
- Agawam
- Belgrade
- Broadbrook
- Charlton
- Dam
- Eldridge
- Enfield
- Enosburg
- Freetown and Swansea
- Hadley
- Hinckley
- Holyoke
- Limerick
- Ludlow
- Meckesville
- Merrimac
- Narragansett
- Ninigret
- Paxto
- Gravel/Quarry Pit
- Podunk
- Raynham
- Ridgebury
- Rock Outcrop
- Rumney
- Saco Variant
- Scarborough
- Sudbury
- Suncook
- Swansea
- Urban Land
- Wareham
- Water
- Wethersfield
- Whitman
- Windsor
- Winooski
- Woodbridge



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

## Topography

Holyoke contains many areas with steep slopes, with the Mount Tom/East Mountain range dividing the City from north to south. The highest peak in this major range is Mount Tom itself, at an elevation of 1040'. Most of the peaks in the range are between 600' and 700', including Mt. Nonotuck, Dry Knoll, Goat Peak, Whiting Peak and Deadtop. Map 13 demonstrates the extent to which steep slopes dominate the City.



Just to the east of the Mount Tom range is another, slightly smaller ridge, with peaks no higher than about 600' (Little Tom). This smaller ridge is separated from the Mount Tom range by the Lake Bray drainage basin. To the west of the Mount Tom and East Mountain range is a second smaller range, again with peaks no higher than about 600'. Broad Brook and Mountain Road are in the valley between the Mount Tom/East Mountain range and the un-

named, smaller range to the west. West of the small range is Rock Valley Road and the northerly-flowing portion of Broad Brook.

With its mountains, ridges, and hills, several thousand acres of Holyoke have slopes greater than 15%. Any parcel with land this steep is difficult to build on, because of added construction expense and increased risk engineering costs to combat erosion. However, these steep slopes do provide regionally significant wildlife habitat for hawks, falcons, reptiles and they do define Holyoke's scenic vistas. Based upon the 2012 OSRP survey, an overwhelming percentage of the City's residents (94%) support the preservation of the City's scenic views.



(Continued on page 38)



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

The maximum slope permitted for subdivision roads is currently 12%, based upon Holyoke's Subdivision Regulations and Holyoke's site plan review criteria direct applicants to minimize the use of steep slopes for access purposes.

The eastern boundary of the City is the Connecticut River, at an elevation of about 120 feet. The sharp difference between the river's elevation and the nearby heights of the mountain peaks give the impression that the Mount Tom/East Mountain range is a much larger, more impressive mountain that would be the case if the range were seen directly against

the Berkshire foothills to the west of the City, which reach average heights of 1,500 feet to 1,700 feet.

Between the river and the major mountain range, the densely developed part of the City steps up in a series of relatively level terraces. In several places these flat areas are cut into by sharp ravines, or dingles, which drain toward the Connecticut River. These dingles were major barriers to passage in the early development of the City's streets and remain relatively untouched wooded valleys through urban Holyoke.

## Landscape Character

Holyoke has a landscape of strong contrasts and natural beauty. The dense historic urban center clustered on the riverbank creates an authentic urban environment, which contrasts elegantly with the wild and mostly undeveloped steep terrain of Mt. Tom and East Mountain. The suburban neighborhoods of Homestead Avenue, and the rural West Holyoke area are unique, distinct and neighborhood-centered. Compared to many communities, Holyoke retains a cohesive feel, with little evidence of suburban sprawl or commercial strip development. The striking landscapes blend seamlessly into one another.

The Mt. Tom and Whiting Street Reservoir areas were designated by the Massachusetts Landscape Inventory as Noteworthy, with the western bluffs of Mt. Tom (partly in Easthampton) as Distinctive - even more worthy of attention.

In 2000, the Mt. Tom/Mt. Holyoke Range was designated by Scenic America as a Last Chance Landscape, in part because of threats of development. In Holyoke, those threats have been somewhat alleviated with the protection of Mt. Tom.

One of the most remarkable views of Holyoke can




Scott Tower, Mark Roessler/Valley Advocate


*(Continued on page 40)*




MAP 14

### Water Resources Map Holyoke

 Barnes Sole Source Aquifer


 Zone II Barnes Aquifer

#### Floodzones

 0.2 PCT ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD HAZARD

 A

 AE

 AREA NOT INCLUDED

 X

 X PROTECTED BY LEVEE

#### Watershed Basins


 2-BARRY BROOK


 9-BROAD BROOK


 5-CONNECTICUT RIVER

 6-HAMPDEN PONDS


 11-MANHAN RIVER

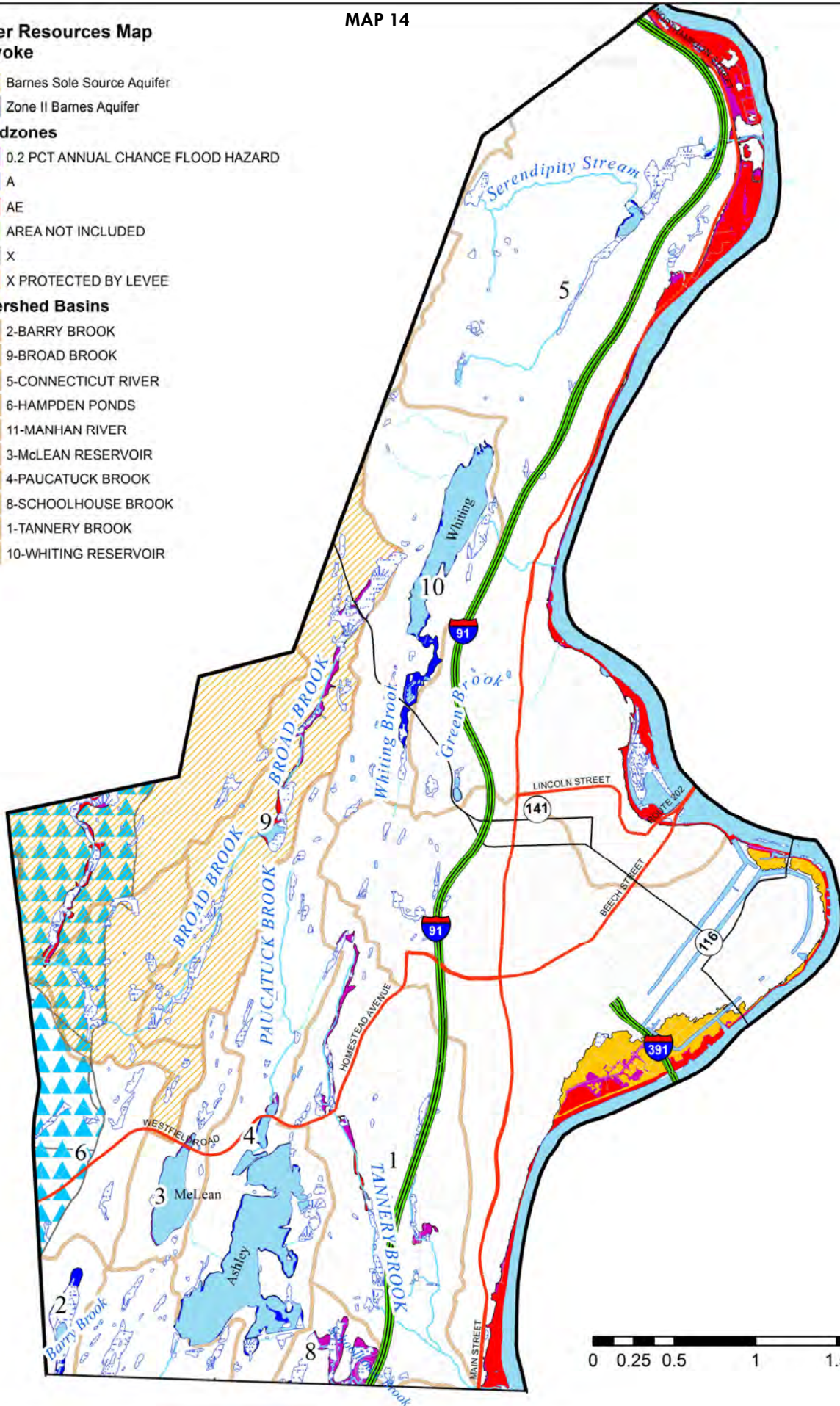
 3-McLEAN RESERVOIR

 4-PAUCATUCK BROOK

 8-SCHOOLHOUSE BROOK

 1-TANNERY BROOK

 10-WHITING RESERVOIR



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

(Continued from page 38)

be observed from Scott Tower at Community Field. Scott Tower provides a bird's eye view of Holyoke and Mt. Tom- a view that cannot be observed from other locations.

## Water Resources

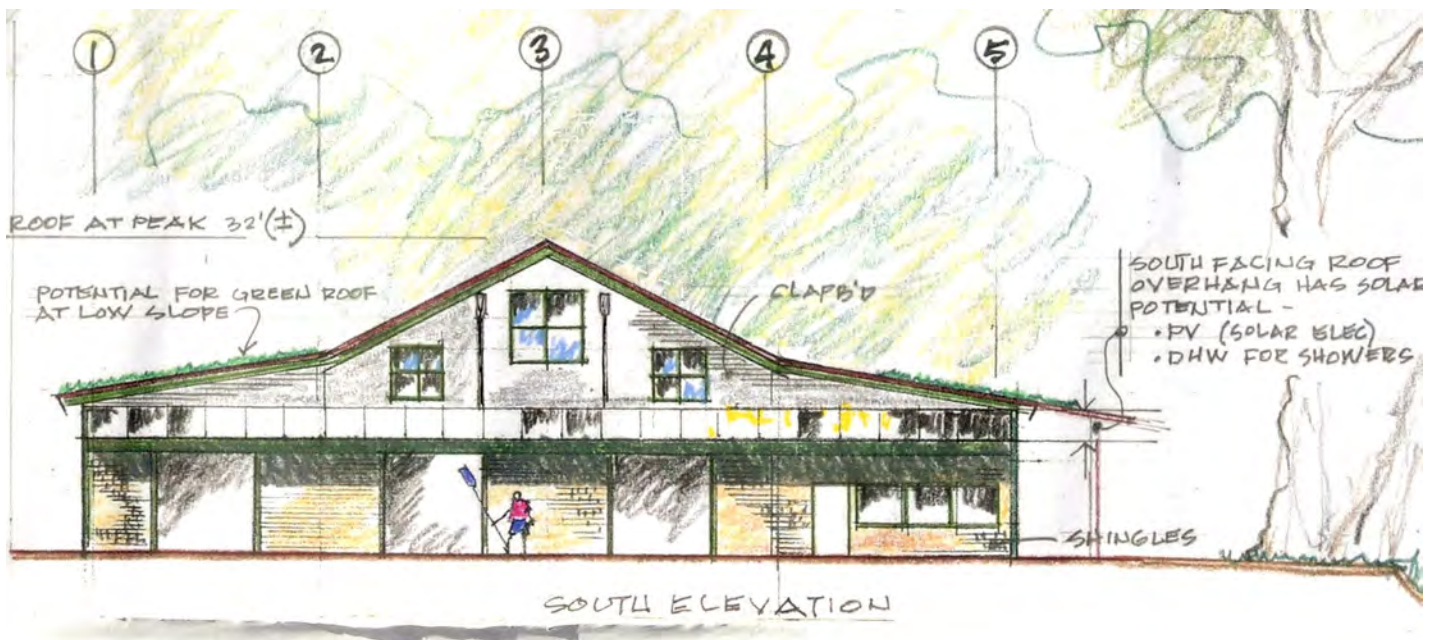
### Existing Recreational Uses

Holyoke's reservoirs, canals and miles of frontage on the Connecticut River make Holyoke's existing water resources a significant portion of Holyoke's overall recreational profile. Map 14 shows the locations of the City's water bodies and waterways.

There has been much more recreational use of the river in recent years than in the past. The northern section of the river, from the Route 202 Bridge upstream to Easthampton, is bordered by an active rail line, which restricts access. Unofficially, fishermen, boaters, birdwatchers, and other nature lovers cross the tracks on foot in several places, notably Dinosaur

Tracks Sanctuary off Route 5 and Log Pond Cove peninsula, off Jones Point Park, owned by Holyoke Gas & Electric. A potentially great view of the river and the dam could be available from the bluff in Pulaski Park, as well as McNulty Park, if trees and shrubs along the slope of the bluff were thinned or pruned. Trimming at Pulaski Park is limited by the presence of an active railroad just below the park. The Holyoke Canoe Club, in the Smith's Ferry neighborhood, is a private club that has boat launching facilities.

Adjacent to the Holyoke Dam, is the Robert E. Barrett Fishway, which is open to the public in the spring when fish, including shad and salmon, use it to bypass the dam. This is a component of Holyoke's recreational profile, as two-thirds of OSRP survey respondents stated that they visit this facility at least once a year. Moreover, the Holyoke Gas & Electric Department estimates that thousands of visitors and schools visit the Fishway during the spring migration, which allows children and families to connect with the natural world while providing environmental benefits to upstream and downstream communities. For ex-



(Continued on page 41)



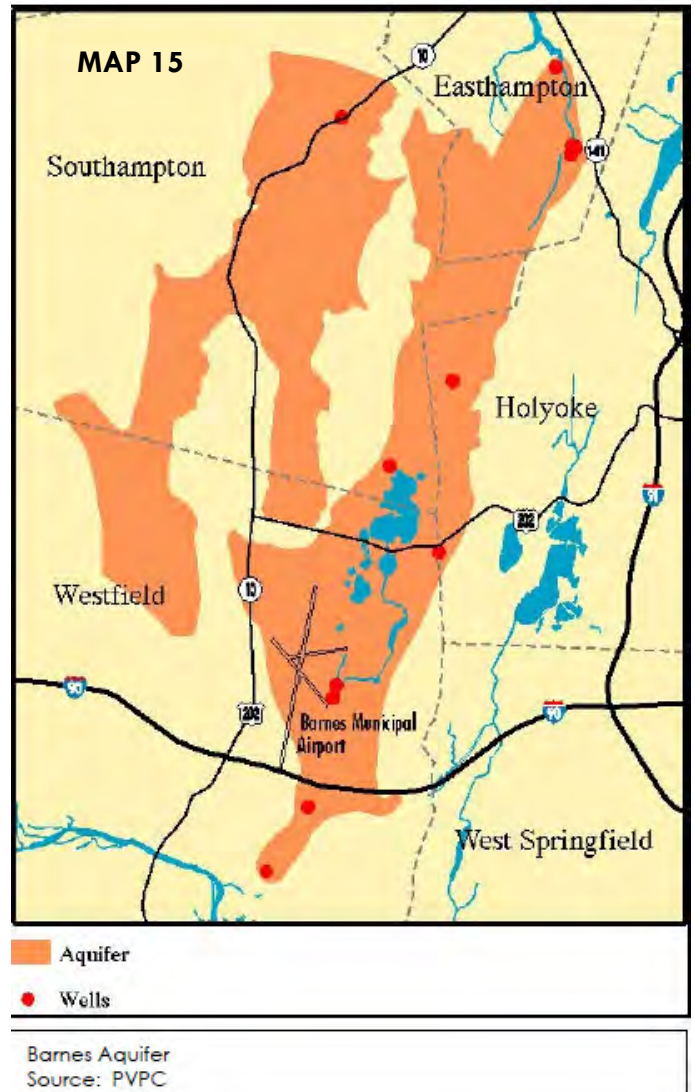
# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

ample, the Robert E. Barrett Fishway allows hundreds of thousands of American Shad to migrate upstream per year, which provides recreational value to anglers and ecosystem services to birds of prey that consume the shad to survive. The Fishway is a good example of the ways in which the city is integrating the River into its recreational and ecological portfolio.

Deterrents to use of the river use in the immediate downtown area include existing land ownership patterns, active rail lines, and a flood control structure that block access to the river. For example, Springdale Park is on the landward side of the City's levee system. This park could offer potential river access in some way in the future if a legal, safe method for crossing the levee could be developed. Currently there is significant unofficial use of the river area by fishermen and youths, which demonstrates demand for this type of access.

An example of the ways in which the City is working to provide access to the River can be found in HG&E's construction of a handicapped-accessible fishing ramp at Slim Shad Point. Upon completion of the Connecticut River coal tar removal project, HG&E began the process of permitting and designing the Slam Shad Point fishing ramp. Scheduled for completion in 2012, the site will provide a landscaped and attractive access point for user groups with multiple levels of mobility. Slim Shad Point is located on the eastern side of the Rt. 202 Bridge and is a favorite fishing location for local shad enthusiasts. The fishing ramp project was proposed by HG&E as a recreational improvement in the FERC Licensing process and is located within an Environmental Justice population.

In 2003 the City of Holyoke was awarded an Urban Self-help Grant to assist with the purchase of the former Jones' Ferry Marina that now provides the City with its only public access to the Connecticut River. This facility has been re-named The Jones Ferry River Access Center. This site consists of a boat ramp, a small Butler building with a green roof which



currently houses a community boating program and an old farmhouse, which was formerly operating as a restaurant. This site now provides opportunities for all of Holyoke and the Pioneer Valley to experience the Connecticut River through rowing, kayaking and sailing programs as well a free access point to launch one's boat. The boat ramp is heavily used in the spring when the section of the river south of the dam is high enough to accommodate larger powerboats and the fishing is good. This section of the river experiences extremely low water levels during the

*(Continued on page 42)*



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summer, which limits the ability of large motorized watercrafts to be active at this facility for periods of time; the low water levels do create ideal conditions for non-motorized activities compared to the congested areas north of the dam. This has made the Jones Ferry River Access Center an attractive location for both adaptive and fully-abled user groups, despite the lack of a mounting apparatus that would make it easier for adaptive rowers to use this location. The installation of a system that would benefit adaptive rowers at this location would greatly enhance Holyoke's recreational offerings

In addition to Holyoke's Canoe Club, the neighboring communities of Northampton, South Hadley, and Chicopee all have public or private launching facilities, which contribute to the sometimes-heavy boat traffic along the Holyoke shoreline upstream of the dam.

Holyoke has an extensive system of reservoirs, as listed below. The City owns much of the watershed lands of these reservoirs and these areas are often used, unofficially, for walking, hiking, nature study, and other relatively benign activities. Officially, these watershed lands are closed to the public, to protect the quality of the drinking water.

## Wetlands

The City of Holyoke has a wide variety of inland wetland resources. The City contains approximately 605.16 acres of bordering vegetated wetlands according to the October 2004 release from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The Connecticut River and all perennial streams in Holyoke, such as Tannery Brook and Broad Brook, contain 200' Riverfront Resource Areas. Floodplain forests can be found at Log Pond Cove and at the southern boundary of Sisters of Providence property. Snake Pond is encircled with a rich bog habitat. Even the canals, although man-made, have developed valuable wetland habitat properties. In 2001, the City of Holyoke Conservation Commission revised its Wetlands Protection Regulations to include a 50' Limit of Disturbance



from the edge of all wetlands and wetland resource areas. The purpose of this Limit of Disturbance is to further protect the valuable upland buffer zone around wetlands and limit the impact of upland projects on wetlands.

## Aquifers

Portions of West Holyoke lie over the Barnes Aquifer (map 15), which provides drinking water to 60,000 residents in Holyoke, Southampton, Easthampton, and Westfield. The Aquifer is over twelve square miles and supplies water to twelve public drinking wells and numerous private wells.

As the ice front retreated northward up the Connecticut River Valley, a large glacial lake formed at the ice front. This lake was dammed by glacial sediment filling the valley near New Britain, Connecticut. At its maximum, this lake known as Lake Hitchcock, extended from central Connecticut northward to St.

*(Continued on page 43)*

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

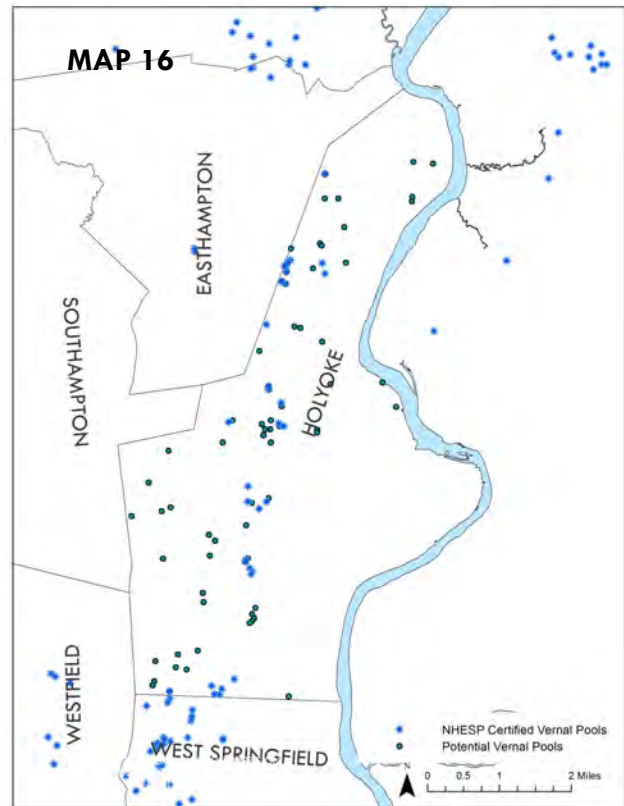
Johnsbury in Vermont. Meltwater streams emerging from the ice at the snout of the glacier deposited sands and gravels into the lake in the form of ice-contact deltas. The ice front paused or retreated very slowly as it moved across the Westfield, West Holyoke, Southamptton and southern Easthampton. This allowed the building of a large delta whose sediments form much of the Barnes Aquifer.

The Barnes Aquifer is composed of well-sorted, sands and gravels which meltwater streams flowing into a glacial lake deposited. The coarse grain-size and excellent sorting of the sediment accounts for it's having a high permeability.

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission staffs the Barnes Aquifer Advisory Committee - an advisory board of member communities which reviews new development over the Aquifer and provides education and advocacy for protection of the resource, of which Holyoke is a member. As an initiative from this protection effort, Holyoke has adopted an Ordinance known as the Water Resource Protection Overlay District, which protects surface and groundwater.

## Vernal Pools

Vernal pools are temporary bodies of fresh water that provide critical breeding habitat for many vertebrate and invertebrate wildlife species. They are defined as "basin depressions where water is confined and persists for at least two months during the spring and early summer of most years, and where reproducing populations of fish do not survive." Vernal pools may be very shallow, holding only five or six inches of water, or they may be quite deep. They range in size from fewer than 100 square feet to several acres (Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Massachusetts Aerial Photo Survey of Potential Vernal Pools, Spring 2001). Vernal pools are found across the landscape, anywhere that small woodland depressions, swales, or kettle holes collect spring runoff or intercept seasonal high groundwater



and along rivers in the floodplain. Many species of amphibians and vertebrates are completely dependent on vernal pools to reproduce. Loss of vernal pools can endanger entire populations of these species.

The state's Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) has predicted the location of vernal pools statewide based on interpretation of aerial photographs. NHESP believes that its method correctly predicts the existence of vernal pools in 80 to 90 percent of cases. They acknowledge, however, that the method probably misses smaller pools. The NHESP has identified approximately 69 potential vernal pools throughout Holyoke with several clusters especially in the mountainous portions of west Holyoke. According to NHESP, clusters indicate particularly good habitat for species. Also, with clusters, there are alternate habitats if something happens to one pool, and slightly different conditions in each

*(Continued on page 44)*

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

may provide different habitats for species dependent upon the pools.

In addition to identifying potential vernal pools, NHESP certifies the existence of actual vernal pools when evidence is submitted to document their location and the presence of breeding amphibians that depend on vernal pools to survive. Certified vernal pools are protected by the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and by additional state and federal regulations. In Holyoke, there are 29 Certified Vernal Pools (Map 16). The pools are scattered throughout the City on the west side of Interstate 91 and can be found at Mt. Tom, behind Holyoke Community College, and clustered south of Ashley Reservoir. The City of Holyoke Wetlands Protection Regulations protect vernal pools regardless of whether they are certified.

The City of Holyoke protects Vernal Pools through establishing performance guidelines for Isolated Vegetated Wetlands in its wetlands regulations.

## Floodplains

The City of Holyoke has FEMA-designated Zone A – 100-year floodplain in several sections of the City. These flood-prone areas include land along the Connecticut River, Tannery Brook, Broad Brook, and land on the west side of Route 5 in Smith's Ferry. The City participates in the FEMA Flood Insurance Program, which requires adherence to construction standards. Development in the 100-year floodplain is regulated by a local Floodplain Protection Ordinance that requires a City Council-issued Special Permit and limits the type of development allowed within the 100-year floodplain. The Conservation Commission also regulates development in the 100-year floodplain pursuant to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Holyoke Wetlands Protection Ordinance, which establishes a 100' buffer around Bordering Land Subject to Flooding. For the first time since 1980, the City's flood maps were updated in 2012/2013. For a detailed map of these changes, please see Map 24.

## Vegetation

### Forest Land

There are approximately **7,163 acres** of forested land in Holyoke, **or 49% of the overall area of the City**, with most of this located along the Mt. Tom/ East Mountain range. The spine of Mount Tom contains approximately 3,708 acres of forested land, with the City of Holyoke, Massachusetts Fish and Game and the Department of Conservation and Recreation holding the majority of the parcels that make up this forested area. For an urban area, Holyoke is well-forested with a well-placed forested corridor that serves to promote the habitat needs of migratory birds and mammals. This dense concentration of forested land provides the City with continuing incentives, derived from the public, to focus investment in our urban areas. For example, a majority of survey respondents (68.8%) indicated that they think the City should preserve forests and open space. Municipal policies that concentrate future development goals towards the Center City, rather than pristine areas, will work to accomplish this goal of preserving the City's forest lands.

The forest itself predominantly deciduous, typical of western Massachusetts. Typical dominant trees in the upland forests are Red Oak, White Oak, Paper Birch, Hickories, with some American Beech, White Pine, Black Birch, Yellow Birch, Eastern Hemlock, and Red Cedar. Along the mountaintops, Red Pine and Chestnut Oak are also found. Forested wetlands and lowlands consist predominantly of Red Maple in association with American Elm, White Ash, Swamp Oak, White Cedar, and Black Tupelo. Common understory shrubs include Spicebush, Highbush and Lowbush Blueberry, Speckled Alder, Mountain Laurel, Maple-leaved Viburnum, and Witch Hazel.

### Public Shade Trees

At present, the City does not have data that would allow an accurate answer tally of public shade trees.

*(Continued on page 45)*



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

However, in 2012, the City submitted an Urban Forestry Environmental Justice Challenge Grant that will produce a 30-year strategic vision for the City's street trees and public shade trees. This document will generate baseline and recommended conditions..

## Wildlife

### General Inventory

Because of the diverse habitats found in the City, Holyoke boasts a wide range of plant species. Over 400 species from more than 70 families have been found on Mt. Tom alone (Mt. Tom Range Study, 1994). *Appendix C: Rare Flora of Holyoke* lists endangered, threatened, and special concern plants found in Holyoke.

### Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

Holyoke is remarkably rich in rare plant and animal species. The Mt. Tom Range Study cited the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) as noting that the Mount Tom range is one of the most important and ecologically significant rare species localities within the Commonwealth (Map 17). The Silvio Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge Action Plan considers the Mt. Tom range to be a high priority Special Focus Area for protection given the rare species habitat, the extent



Peregrine Falcon/Wikimedia commons

of contiguous habitat types, and the habitat for migratory land birds available. Indeed, about 47% of Holyoke's acreage is designated as Priority or Estimated rare species habitat by NHESP, an extremely high percentage of the City.

The areas designated by Priority Habitat are protected by MESA (Massachusetts Endangered Species Act), which requires NHESP review of projects located with Priority Habitat. Since 1999, several projects have been proposed within Priority Habitat and NHESP is likely to require a Conservation Restriction on significant areas of land around the project site; thus increasing the amount of protected land in the City.

### Fisheries and Wildlife

Within Holyoke's borders, approximately 242 species of vertebrates have been identified (see Appendix B). These species include: 29 species of fish, including game fish such as Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass, Brook and Rainbow Trout, and Yellow Perch; 21 species of amphibians, including Spotted Salamanders and Wood Frogs of vernal pool fame; 18 species of reptiles, including all snake species found in the state; at least 160 species of birds,

*(Continued on page 46)*

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

from Ruby-throated Hummingbirds to Bald Eagles; and about 42 species of mammals, from the common Gray Squirrels to an occasional wandering Moose. For an urban area, this is a surprisingly diverse natural heritage. The City's Connecticut River frontage and undisturbed habitats on Mount Tom and East Mountain, give Holyoke more species of both plants and animals than most City residents (and non-residents) realize.

## Wildlife Corridors

The Mt. Tom and East Mountain ranges form an important and relatively untouched corridor of wildlife habitat running right through the middle of Holyoke. Only Routes 141 and 202 cross the mountains and the only major interruptions of habitat are the two golf courses and the former quarry site, which has begun to be reclaimed by birds of prey.

This mountain range also hosts an extraordinary concentration of migrating hawks during the fall migration. Many birdwatchers congregate on the various peaks of the Mt. Tom range to watch this migration from early September through Late November. Dur-

ing mid-September, up to 10,000 hawks, mostly Broad-winged Hawks have been seen in one day passing over Goat Peak on the Mt. Tom range. Other raptor species known to migrate over Mt. Tom are Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Northern Goshawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, and Peregrine Falcon.

The Connecticut River forms another major wildlife corridor for aquatic species. In most of Holyoke there is very little floodplain forest left along the river, but there are areas at Log Pond Cove and near the power plant in Smith's Ferry where there are substantial floodplain forests. Most of the rest of the riverfront has a very narrow strip of floodplain forest to act as a wildlife corridor along the river. It is worth noting that most of this area is within the 200' Riverfront Resource Area and/or the Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF) resource area and is, therefore, subject to protection under the Wetlands Protection Act. This layer of protection helps to preserve these critical habitat areas.



CT River, Holyoke/ NOAA

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

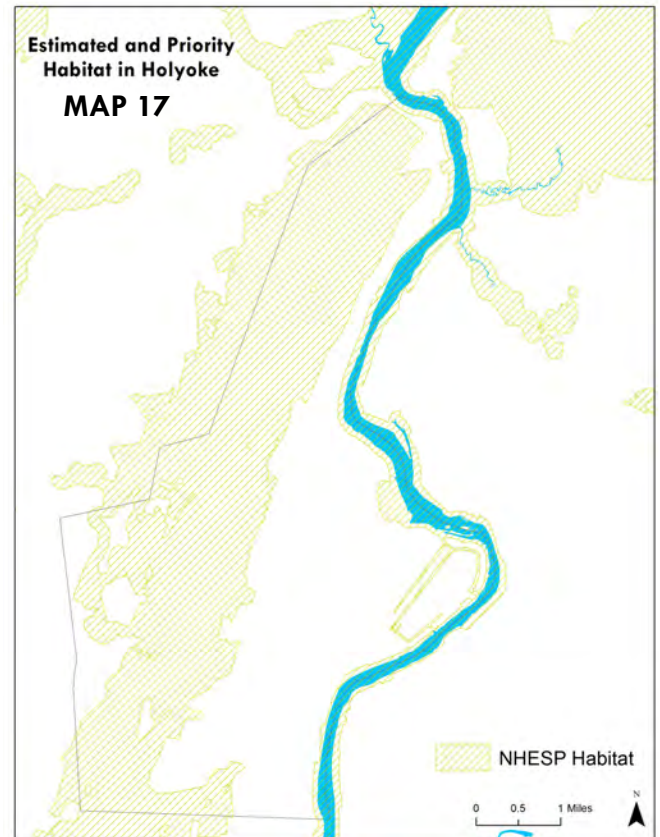
## Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species

See the discussion of rare species above for a general description of rare species concentrations in the City. Appendix B, Vertebrates of Holyoke, and Appendix C, Rare Invertebrates of Holyoke, list most of the known endangered, threatened, and special concern animals found in the City. Several endangered species, which are susceptible to disturbance, are not shown on the list. More information on all of these species is available from the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581, phone (508) 792-7270 x200, <http://www.state.ma.us/dfwele>.

Holyoke is especially rich in rare reptiles and amphibians, with virtually every non-marine species represented in the City. Ten vertebrates, eleven invertebrates, thirty-two plants, and two rare natural community types are included on the Natural Heritage Program database (particular names of data sensitive species are not listed to protect rare species).

Two of the more spectacular threatened and endangered animal species found in the Commonwealth can be encountered in Holyoke. For example, Bald Eagles, which nest just along the Connecticut River in Northampton and West Springfield. These nesting birds hunt the river and other areas in Holyoke. It would not be unreasonable to expect that Bald Eagles may one day choose to nest along the riverfront or the reservoirs in Holyoke. Wintering eagles are also found along the river in Holyoke, because of the unfrozen water just below the Mt. Tom Power Plant and the Holyoke Dam. Peregrine Falcons, which nest in Springfield and the Holyoke City Hall Clock Tower, can also be seen migrating and wintering along Mt. Tom and hunting pigeons downtown.

Holyoke is fortunate to have such numbers of rare species and habitats within its boundaries. Every effort should be made to protect and preserve these rarities. While the preservation of natural habitat is



not the number one priority for residents of Holyoke, it is important to the City's residents; only maintaining clean water supplies and the preservation of natural resources rank higher than the preservation of wildlife habitat.

## Scenic Resources and Unique Environments

### Scenic Landscapes

As documented earlier in the OSRP, the preservation of scenic resources in Holyoke is important to 98.4% of Holyoke's residents. This is probably one of the most significant policy considerations to take into account when planning for Open Space preservation in Holyoke.

Areas in Holyoke that support the City's scenic resources that are considered of particular scenic value include the following:

*(Continued on page 48)*



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

- Mount Tom, including the State Reservation, the former Mt. Tom Ski Area, and Mt. Tom itself, due to its dominance of the skyline and its scenic vistas;
- The Whiting Street, Ashley, and McLean reservoir watersheds, due to the fact that they provide scenic and natural opportunities to the City's outdoor enthusiasts;
- The Connecticut River, particularly the Holyoke Dam, and views from the Dinosaur Footprints Reservation, Pulaski Park, McNulty Park, and the river bridges; there has been strong interest within the Community for opening up the views at Pulaski Park and McNulty Park, and this should be pursued within the context of proper environmental permitting;
- The Route 5 corridor in Smith's Ferry, due to its views of the river and the mountains;
- Mountain Road in West Holyoke, due to its rural character and unbroken views of East Mountain;
- The views from the Log Cabin Restaurant on Rt. 141, which serve as a regional attraction;
- The views from Cedar Knob, between Rt. 5 and I-91;
- The changing views along I-91 through the City;
- The New England Trail along the backbone of Mount Tom and East Mountain;
- The Basalt ridges along East Mountain, which provide westward views of the Berkshires;
- The canal system, which brings flowing water right into the downtown, and stands out as a lasting landmark that makes Holyoke unique;
- Gatehouse Road behind the HG&E substation,

due to its views of the river, dam, and Mount Tom;

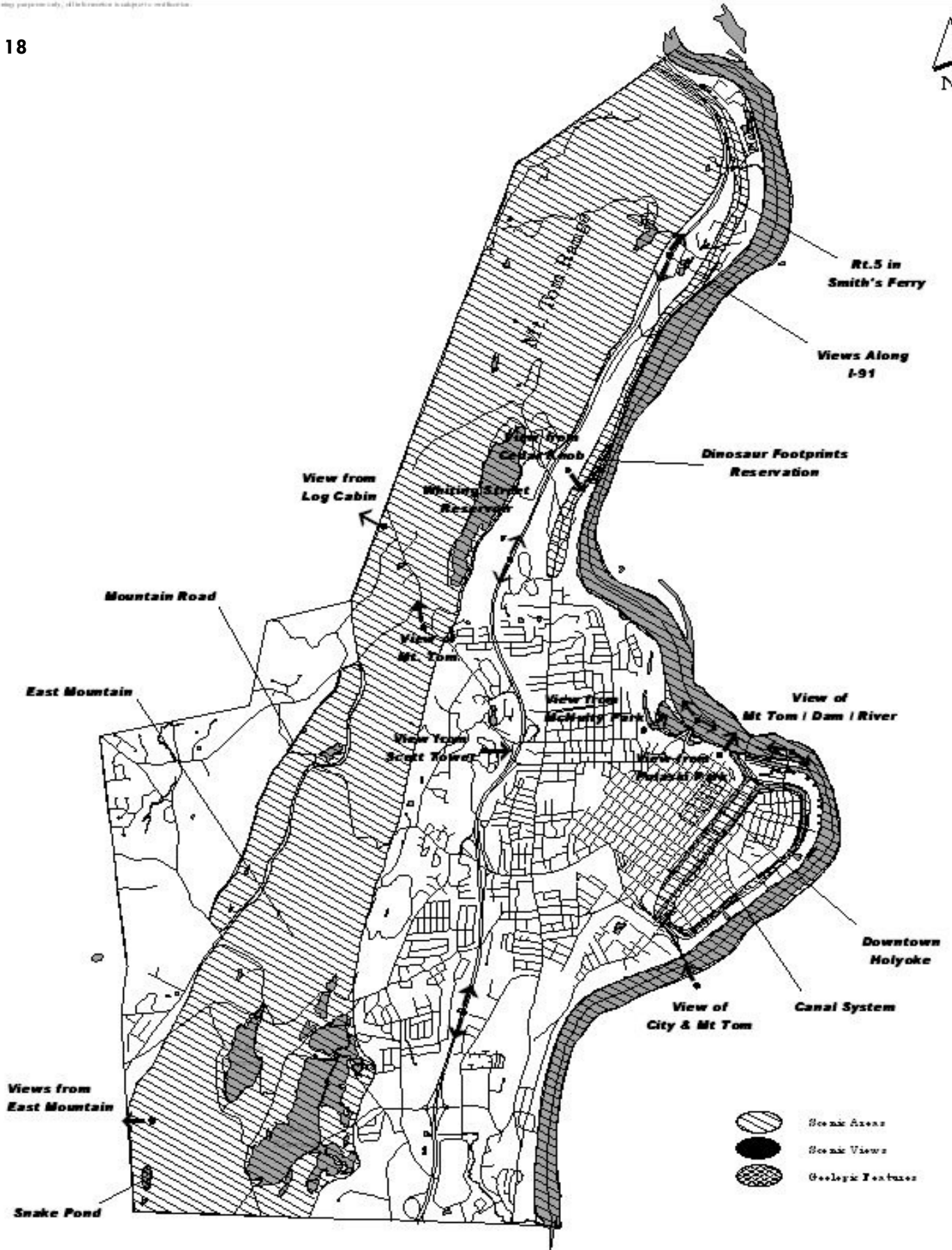
- Scott Tower, at Community Field/Scott Field, due to its views of the Valley; preservation of Scott Tower and formalizing public access have the potential to make this part of the Community once again;
- Easthampton Road (Rt. 141), which provides the most direct view of Mt. Tom;
- And The historic architecture of downtown Holyoke
- And remarkably intact examples of late 1800s building styles.

See Map 18 for locations of these areas. There are many other smaller vignettes of grace and beauty throughout the City, such as the classic Victorians of Fairfield Avenue, the restful greenery of Heritage State Park and Hampden Park in the downtown, or the quiet calm of Zenner Pond on West Cherry Street. These large and small spots of scenic value should be protected and enhanced in the future. It is worth noting that 98.4% of OSRP survey respondents identified the preservation of Holyoke's scenic resources as a priority, which indicates that there is strong support among the public for preserving those features that help to give Holyoke a strong sense of place. To that end, the protection of the scenic landscapes and resources is an objective for the 2012 plan.

## Major Characteristic or Unusual Geologic Features

As noted earlier in the plan, the City contains several rare, unique and important geologic features. For example, the Dinosaur Footprints Reservation along Rt. 5 demonstrates a fossilized example of herding behavior in dinosaurs. This is the most well-known example of dinosaur footprints within the City, but

*(Continued on page 50)*



# Unique Features Map

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

*(Continued from page 48)*

there are also several lesser-known examples, such as those at the Wistariahurst museum. While these are distinct geological features, there are no formal protections of these resources in either state or local law, despite public interest in formalizing protections available to these resources. For now, the preservation of the City's pre-historic fossil record is dependant upon the stewardship of those property owners who posses these resources. While the most well-known dinosaur footprints in the City are not formal City parks, they are open to the public and they are widely-used. For example, two-thirds of survey respondents stated that they used the Dinosaur Footprints Reservation on an annual basis, which is roughly comparable to usage of the fishlift.

Snake Pond is a more recent geological feature worthy of note. This kettlehole pond in the southwest corner of the City is fringed by a bog that contains several rare and endangered species. It is unique because kettleholes are hydrological remnants from New England's most recent period of glaciation that contain soils and plant varieties that thrive in acidic environments difficult to find any where else.

As noted in several portions of the plan, the City's most well-known landmark is also one of its most in-



Photo: Snake pond/Wikimedia Commons

teresting geological features. The volcanic vents that released lava during Triassic period and created the Mt. Tom and East Mountain ranges have left Holyoke with one of its most enduring symbols.

See Map 18 for the locations of these geological features.

## Cultural and Historic Areas

Holyoke contains one designated National Register Historic District, the North High Street Historic District, in the downtown, and one local Historic District in Ward 7 on Fairfield Avenue. The North High Street Historic District encompasses the block between Lyman Street and Dwight Street on High Street, with commercial storefronts as well as several buildings on Maple and Suffolk Streets. The Fairfield Avenue local historic district was established in 2007 to preserve the architectural integrity of one of Holyoke's most prime examples of Victorian Architecture.

Prospect Park (also known as Pulaski Park) was placed on the National Historic Register in 2004. This Olmstead-designed park has been the focus of restoration efforts, which, when successful, will open up dramatic views of the River that have been lost due to the growth of vegetation and invasive species. Two other properties listed on the National Register are the Hadley Mills Townhouses and the Canal System. The Depot Square Area, one of the first commercial districts located near the train depot is being investigated as to the possibility of becoming a local historic district.

The local historic inventory includes approximately 960 buildings and sites. The Wistariahurst Museum, owned by the Holyoke Historic Commission, is an historic house museum, which also offers occasional concerts and lectures. Other cultural events are held at Heritage State Park, the War Memorial Auditorium where both veteran dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov and seminal American band Fugazi have performed, and Holyoke Community College. The Victory Theater could also host cultural events in the downtown, if

*(Continued on page 51)*



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

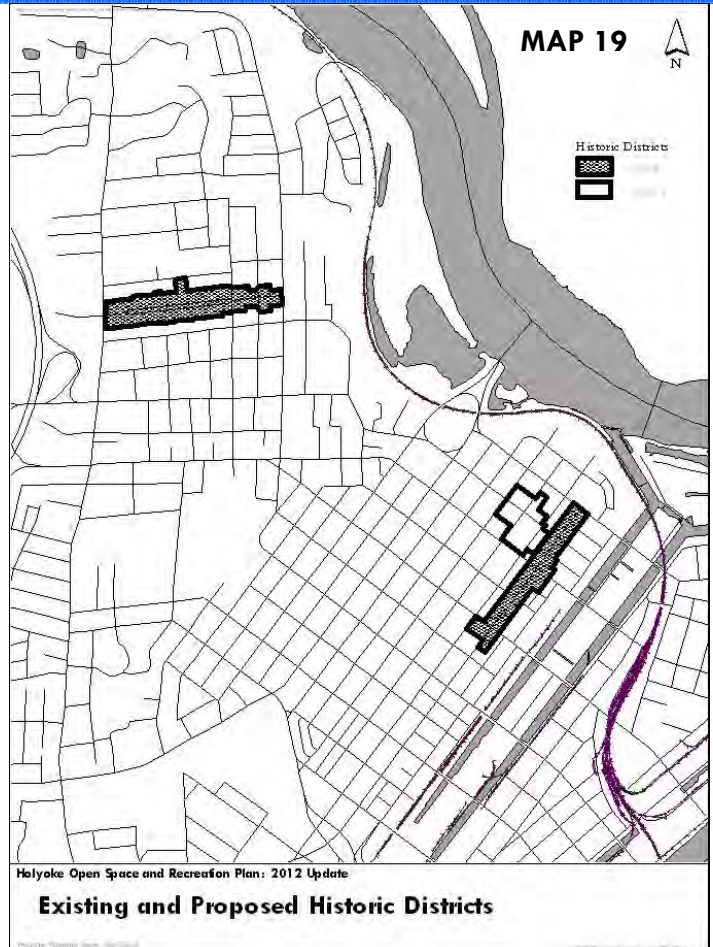
renovation of that structure proves to be successful. Other downtown cultural sites include the Children's Museum and the Volleyball Hall of Fame.

The City is also home to a historic Civilian Conservation Corps project. Constructed in the 1930's, the stone tower and stonewalls, stairs, and bridges at Scott Tower could permit, if restored, a wonderful view of Holyoke and nearby mountains and a unique urban recreational area. Some renovation was completed in 2003 through the help of a grant awarded from the Division of Conservation and Recreation. In 2005 the City for funding for trail reconstruction and stonework to re-invigorate positive uses of the park. To date, Scott Tower remains a portion of the City with many people interested in seeing it succeed. Access and navigational issues (such as it's geographic isolation from the City due to its relationship with I-91) would need to be resolved before Scott Tower could return as a full component of the City's recreational offerings.

While the preservation of cultural resources might not be a formal component of an Open Space and Recreation Plan, it is a high priority for the residents of Holyoke. Based upon the feedback from the 2012 survey, the preservation of cultural resources ranked as the top priority for residents of the City, which indicates that there is strong preference within the community for preserving those features that give Holyoke a clear sense of place. Organizations such as the Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts, the Winter Palace Theater, Gateway City Arts, Canal Galleries, and Open Square companies are working to preserve the City's cultural resources. Map 19 Identifies the locations of designated districts.

### Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Holyoke has no state-designated Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. However, the Mount Tom range, with its concentration of rare and endangered species and habitats, its scenic lookouts, and its heavy recreational use, is a natural resource of regional and, indeed, New England-wide impor-



tance. The Connecticut River is another regionally important natural resource, again because of its rare and endangered species, its natural beauty, its recreation potential, and its hydropower generation.

West Holyoke is locally important for its scenic beauty and areas of rare and endangered species habitat, and regionally important because of the Barnes Aquifer.

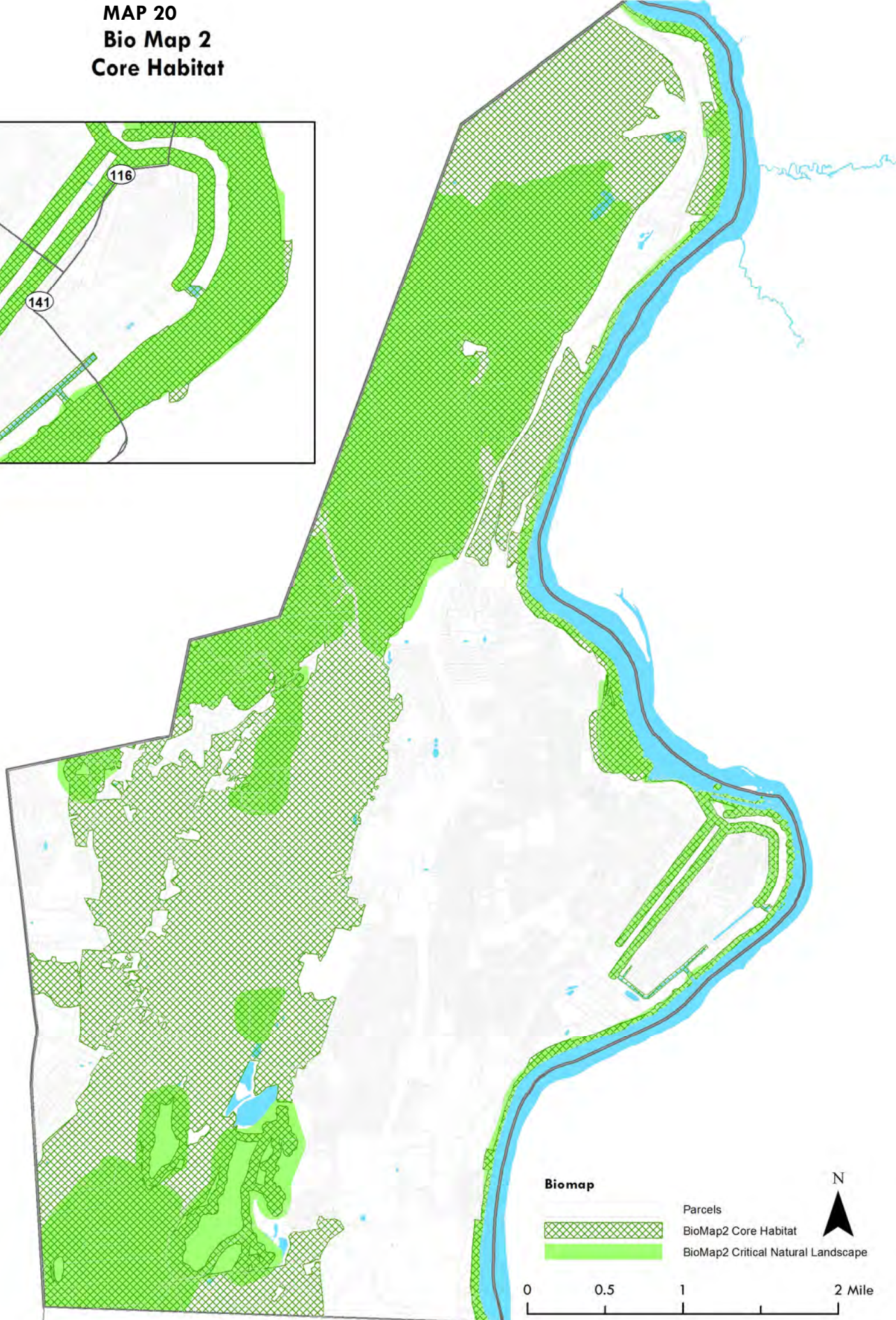
### Core Habitats

In November of 2010, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and the Nature Conservancy released Bio Map 2, which was drafted to replace the 2001 Bio Map and the 2003 Living Waters Index. Bio Map 2 (Maps 20, 21 &


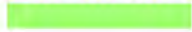

*(Continued on page 55)*



**MAP 20**  
**Bio Map 2**  
**Core Habitat**



**Biomap**

	Parcels
	BioMap2 Core Habitat
	BioMap2 Critical Natural Landscape





# MAP 21

## Biomap

- Parcels
- Landscape Blocks

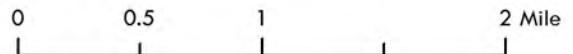
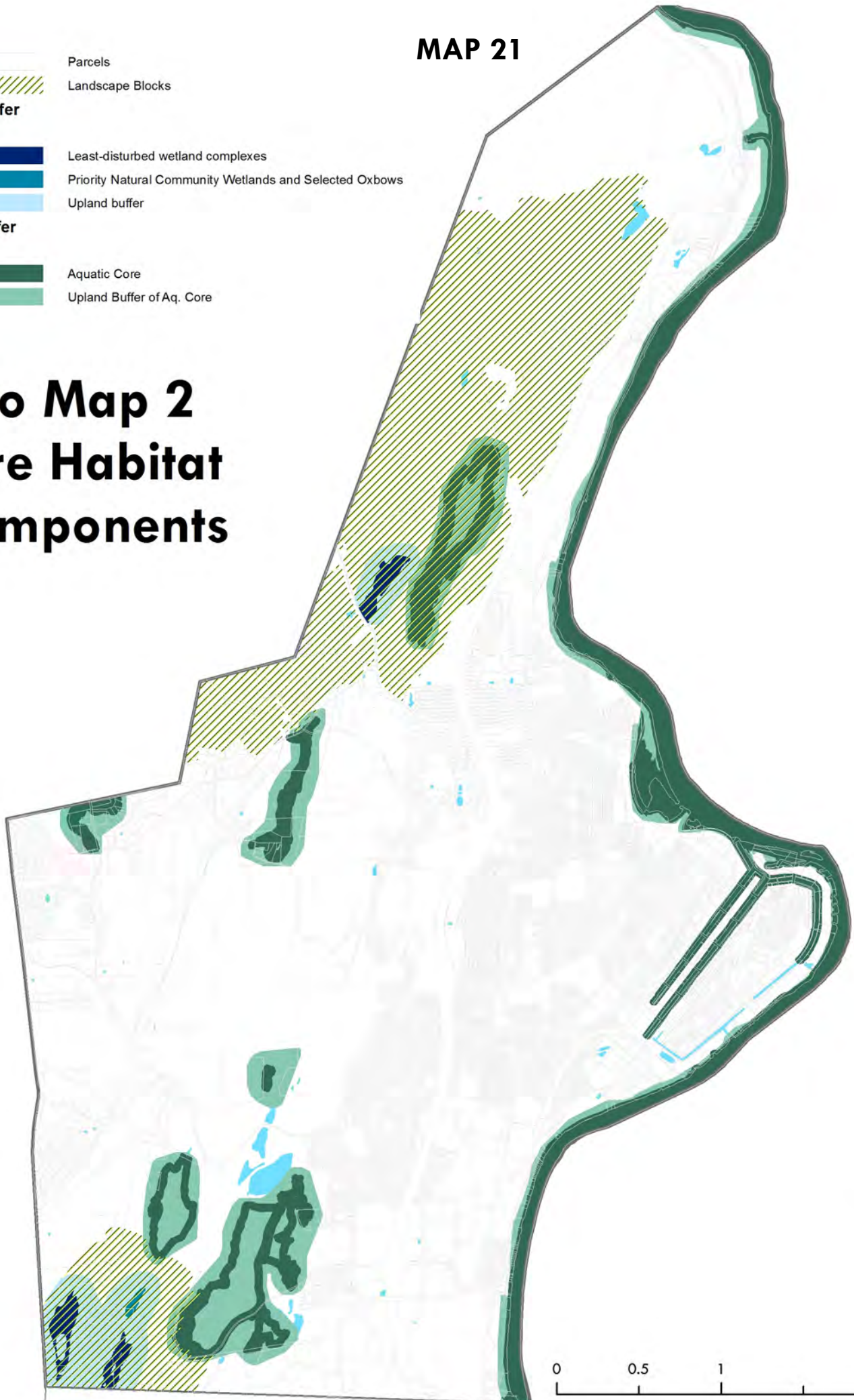
## Wetland Buffer Description

- Least-disturbed wetland complexes
- Priority Natural Community Wetlands and Selected Oxbows
- Upland buffer

## Aquatic Buffer Description

- Aquatic Core
- Upland Buffer of Aq. Core

# Bio Map 2 Core Habitat Components



**Biomap**

- Parcels
- Priority Natural Communities
- Forest Core
- Vernal Pool Core

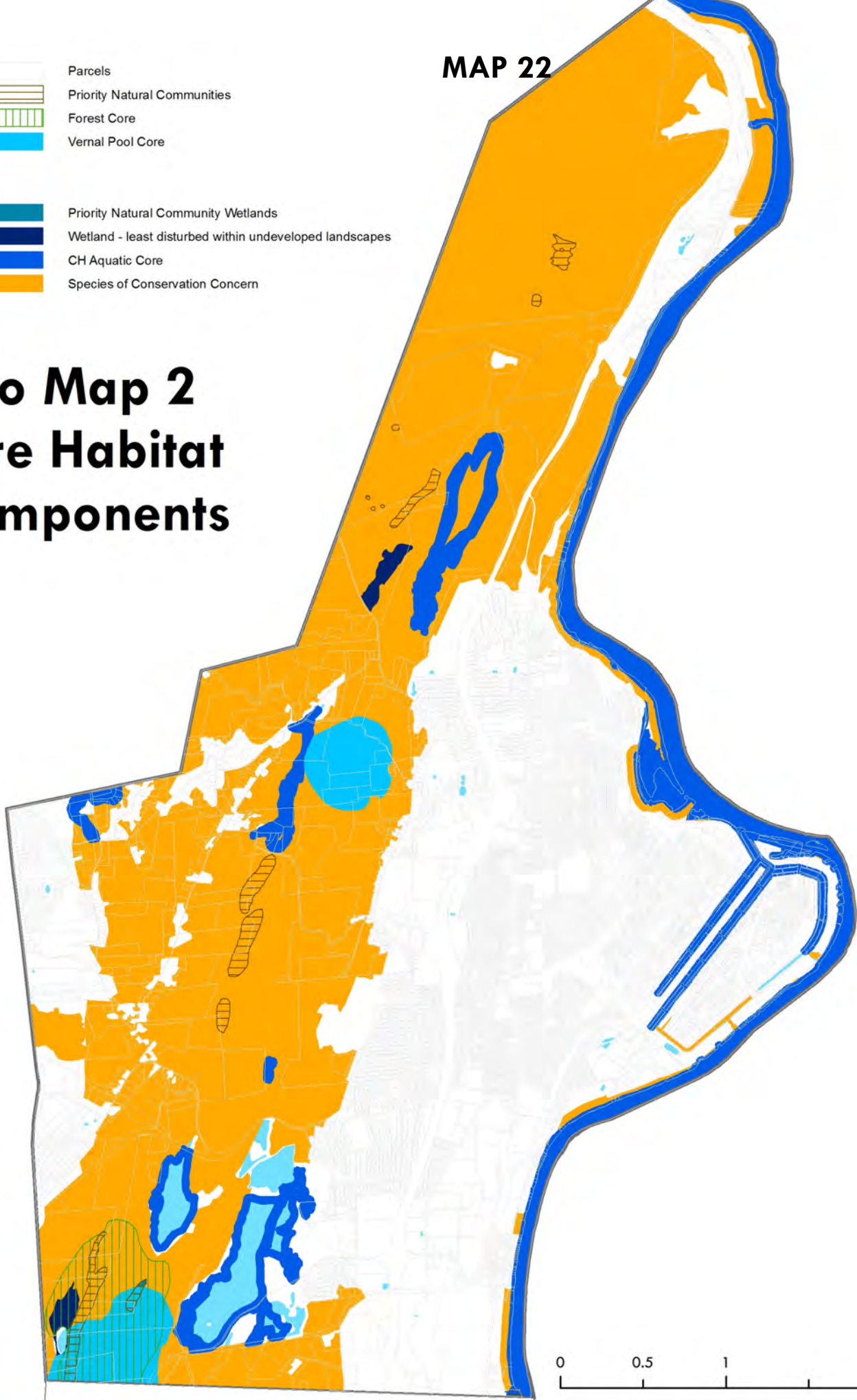
**Wetlands**

**Description**

- Priority Natural Community Wetlands
- Wetland - least disturbed within undeveloped landscapes
- CH Aquatic Core
- Species of Conservation Concern

**MAP 22**

# Bio Map 2 Core Habitat Components





# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

22) identified landscapes within ecoregions that are most important for the preservation of the Commonwealth's Biodiversity. The Connecticut River Valley has 97,000 acres of designated core habitat (or 28% of its land area) necessary for the long-term survival of Massachusetts' species; the Mount Tom range represents the most concentrated portion of this habitat within Hampden County. The core habitats represent "habitat for the state's most viable rare plant and animal populations and include exemplary natural communities and aquatic habitats". Holyoke is unique insofar as a large portion of this habitat is protected through either State, Federal or Local agencies, which indicates that strategic preservation of key parcels within Holyoke's core habitat landscape has the potential to make a significant impact on statewide preservation of the Commonwealth's plant and animal species. The previous three pages display Maps 19-21, which demonstrate the current mapped extent of Holyoke's biodiversity hotspots. These maps are designed to assist policy makers when deciding whether or not to preserve a parcel of land.

While it did not rank as the number one priority for Holyoke's residents, 68.8% of survey respondents indicated that the City needs to work to support farms, forests and wildlife habitat, which indicates that there is community support for the preservation of landscape features that would be beneficial to plant and animal species.

## Environmental Challenges

### Hazardous Waste Sites and Brownfields

Hazardous waste sites are parcels that are contaminated by chemical pollutants, usually as a result of dumping or accidental leaking. Many of these become brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Holyoke contains many abandoned

and underused properties with potential brownfields issues.

The MassDEP currently identifies 244 State "release sites" for the City. A review of the MassDEP's Site List Search indicates that at least 23 of these release sites are currently "open", which indicates that assessment or cleanup is ongoing or needed at these sites.

In addition to known spill sites, there are large numbers of abandoned or underutilized properties throughout the City where potential environmental issues exist and investigations have not been conducted. The City of Holyoke has 74 abandoned buildings, 289 properties in tax title, and 65 properties in the foreclosure process in Land Court. Hence, brownfields play an important role in the barriers to redevelopment in the City of Holyoke.

Ultimately, with the remediation and redevelopment of the brownfield sites in Holyoke, the community will benefit by having the properties returned to the tax rolls, protecting public health through remediation, elimination of criminal activities occurring in these underutilized properties, mitigation of unsafe conditions, and creating jobs for the long-term economic security of the City. Brownfields redevelopment targets the entire Holyoke community, but particularly those people living in the downtown area and those living within close proximity to the brownfields properties who are environmental justice communities of primarily persons of Puerto Rican heritage, person of low-income, and a high percentage of youth in the community. The construction of the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center on the former Mastex site on Bigelow street is representative of the City's efforts to redevelop vacant, or underutilized, parcels with the ultimate goal of producing high-quality development within the City.

To continue this trend, the City will be remediating the former Adams Pakkawood Site at 191 Appleton Street in the Summer of 2013. The site is located

*(Continued on page 56)*

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

between the 1st and 2nd level canals and abutting to the Canalwalk. The Office of Planning & Development, with assistance from Tighe & Bond, is preparing the required approvals and documentation now and the Analysis of Cleanup Alternatives. Additional funds were received through the EPA to complete the work and work will begin April 2013. In order to keep the City's economic core healthy and reduce the amount of flight to greenfields, the City targets the industrial core to provide potential expansion and new business space. A critical step in the compilation of developable sites is first having the sites tested, and if necessary, cleaned.

The City has also received EPA Brownfield Assessment Demonstration Pilot Grant, as well as a Targeted Brownfield Assessment Grant. The redevelopment of brownfields sites is consistent with the community's support for redevelopment of the City's industrial downtown area, which was identified as the top development priority for residents with 71.8% of survey respondents identifying this as a development goal.

Most recently, the City's efforts to remediate brownfields can be found on Mountain Road. The City took ownership of a parcel on Mountain Road in the rural western portion of the City in 1924 via eminent

domain for small arms practice by the "Voluntary Militia" required by state law. The National Guard was the last known property user, terminating their use of the site parcel for these purposes in the 1970's. The City is in the process of removing lead, antimony and arsenic that remained after the use of this site as a firing range discontinued. The City will have this parcel cleaned-up in 2012, leaving a small portion for housing lots, and the majority of this parcel will be reserved as conservation land. This demonstrates the possibility of promoting redevelopment while supporting conservation efforts.

The state Department of Environmental Protection keeps an inventory of contaminated sites. Readers who wish an up-to-date list should call the Western Region DEP at 413-784-1100.

## Landfills and Sewage Treatment Plants

There are no active landfills in the City. The Holyoke Mall at Ingleside is built over an old landfill, which was discontinued in the early 1970's.

The City has a sewage treatment plant next to I-391, which provides secondary treatment for the City's sewered areas. This is also the location of the City's primary CSO abatement facility.

## Erosion

Tannery Brook is a 2.5 mile long tributary of the Connecticut River with headwaters in a wooded area northwest of Holyoke Community College. Its watershed is approximately 1,400 acres in size, representing approximately 10% of Holyoke's land area. The upper reaches of the Brook, in the vicinity of the college, are in a mostly stable riparian state. However, the middle and lower portions of the brook have been severely degraded in sections that have experienced significant erosion and channelization. Extensive development in this section of the brook has resulted in damage to land belonging to the Sister's of Providence near the intersection of Tannery Brook and Main Street. In addition, scouring as a

*(Continued on page 57)*



Photo: Tannery Brook Erosion in the Connecticut River/Google



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

result of redirecting the brook has caused large commercial tenants at the bottom of the watershed to experience serious infrastructure damage, as recently as 2006, totaling several hundred thousands of dollars. Aerial photos (Map 23) demonstrate the extent to which sedimentation and erosion are impacting the Connecticut River. The City has applied for funding from multiple grants programs to remediate the Tannery Brook watershed, but has not been able to find a funding program that meets the needs of this watershed. Nevertheless, efforts to mitigate erosion and stream damage have the potential to prevent future losses.

In addition, the bank of the Connecticut River, in the vicinity of the Log Pond Cove peninsula and its intersection with the mainland, shows considerable erosion along a high sandy bank below Lincoln Street. This site has shown signs of erosion for several decades, but the actual effects of the erosion have been minimal in terms of cutting back the top of the bank.

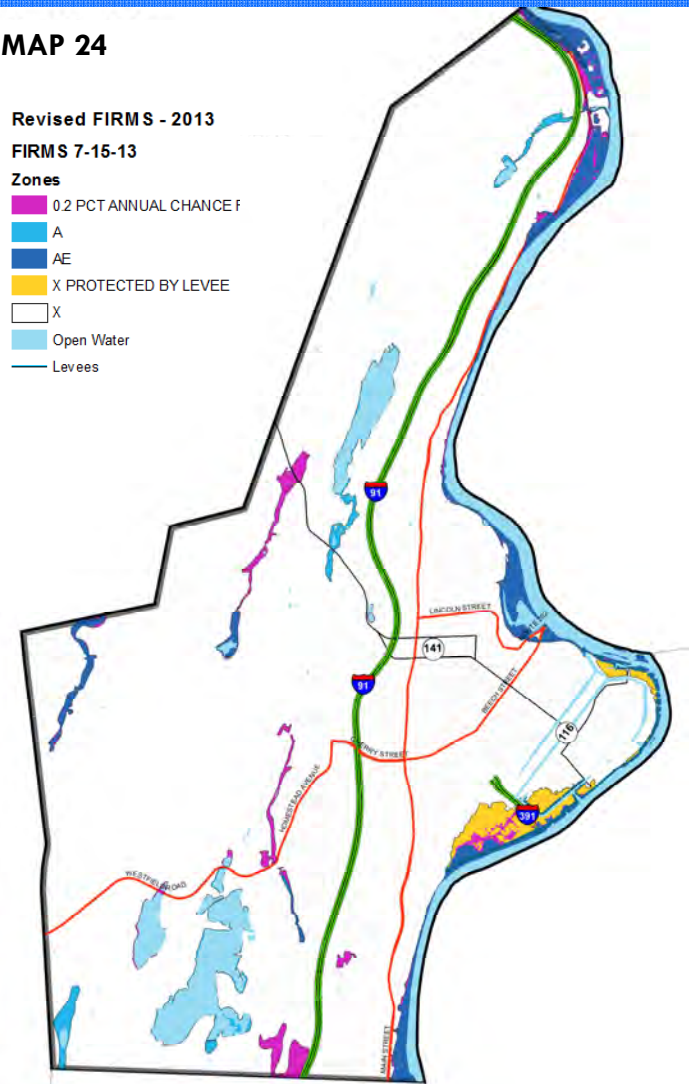
The City does have an Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance enforced by the City Engineer to address active erosion and sedimentations problems. The City also closely monitors compliance with the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPP) requirement of the EPA and is very proactive during the construction and development process to ensure that construction activities do not result in the deposition of sediment within the City's water supplies and wetlands resource areas.

## Flooding

In 2012, FEMA issued new floodplain boundaries to the City of Holyoke. The City adopted these boundaries in 2013]. Areas in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's 100-year floodplain include:

- Connecticut River—Log Pond Cove and McNulty Park Area, Northern Town Boundary from Easthampton Line to the first sharp bend in the River, eastern sections of Main Street, portions of downtown between Riverside Park and

**MAP 24**



the Willimanset Bridge;

- Tannery Brook along Homestead Avenue;
- Broad Brook—along portions of Rock Valley Road and Mountain Road
- Whiting Street Brook-south of the reservoir down to Old Bassett Road

The Conservation Commission Office will be the keeper of these revised maps, as the Conservation Commission agent is the City's floodplain coordina-

*(Continued on page 58)*

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

tor, due to the fact that the 100-year floodplain is subject to protection under state and local wetlands regulations.

Aside from the 100-year floodplain, shown on Map 24, there are some well-known portions of the City that experience flooding. These other areas that are prone to flooding during flash storm events but not within the 100-year flood plain include:

- Green Brook- particularly at Green Lane and Longfellow Drive;
- Portions of the Great Lakes neighborhood

It should be noted that the City's 2011-2012 redevelopment of Community Field will result in dramatic improvements over pre-redevelopment conditions at Community Field, from both an ecological and hydrological perspective.

A flood control dike runs along the Connecticut River from just south of the I-391 Bridge to south of Springdale Park. Without the dike, much of the area behind the dike would be subject to periodic flooding.

There are a few roadways that are subject to flooding due to poor drainage, including West Franklin Street and Cabot Street next to the First Level Canal. This is caused by the severe slope or "u" cause by the roads traveling under the railroad. Within the Tannery Brook Watershed, periodic flooding is most likely the result of channelization and undersized culverts. Localized flooding also occurs in the Michigan Avenue/Eerie Avenue section of the City; the City has taken steps to design and permit a remedy for the periodic flooding of Michigan Avenue/Eerie Avenue and needs to allocate funding to cover the costs of environmental permitting and construction to fully resolve this issue.

## Sedimentation

As noted above, areas subject to sedimentation in-

clude:

- Tannery Brook near its confluence with the Connecticut River, as discussed above;
- Broad Brook, due to road sand washing into the brook; and
- The pool upstream of the Hadley Falls Dam on the Connecticut River, which receives sediment from the river's watershed upstream at least to the Turners Falls dam.

## Development Patterns

In its early days from 1750 to 1845, the area now known as the City of Holyoke, was a farming community called Ireland Parish. The first dam was built in 1845 to take advantage of the 57-foot drop in the Connecticut River. Over the course of a few years, a consortium of Boston investors purchased 1,000 acres of farmland, built the dam, constructed canals, and established a series of mills along those canals. This initial planned development of the City shaped the City's growth and development patterns. When the City reached its maximum occupancy of 60,000 people in the 1920s, a sophisticated, metropolitan City had sprouted between Mount Tom and the banks of the Connecticut River. The depopulation trend that seemed intractable between 1920 and 2010 left unpopulated large sections of the City's formerly-active urban core. It is within these portions of the City that the greatest growth potential exists. This is due not only to the scarcity of easily-developed land, but also to the fact that existing infrastructure already services these portions of the City. At present, Holyoke is fully-committed to restoring its urban neighborhoods, as evidenced by this document and the 2012 Holyoke Urban Renewal Plan. This infill and redevelopment pattern will be beneficial to the City's surrounding rural lands, as it will result in greater utilization of already developed lands and reduce pressure on Greenfield sites.

## Ground and Surface Water Pollution

The City of Holyoke possesses an abundant supply

*(Continued on page 59)*



# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

of clean drinking water, which is filtered by the forests that encircle the City's reservoirs. This provides clean, uncontaminated surface water to the City's municipal drinking water customers.

Groundwater is less reliable, as there are several active water pollution projects in the City's other water bodies. For example, Trichloroethylene, a cleaning solvent, was found to have contaminated a small area of drinking water wells in West Holyoke. In 1984, DEP found TCE in a stretch of the aquifer, including the sole source Broad Brook Basin. DEP did a comprehensive investigation and identified 2 Potentially Responsible Parties, including Southampton Sanitary Engineering for their site at 80/82 Pequot Road, Southampton, and General Electric for two sites in West Holyoke, which may have been a 1950s dumping area for its Jackson Street facility (PCBs were also detected at these sites and removed by GE). As part of this investigation, DEP sampled more than 400 private wells in Southampton, Easthampton, Westfield and Holyoke and also installed 278 monitoring wells to identify the approximate area of the TCE contaminant plume. To manage drinking water contamination, the following actions were taken:

The City shut down Coronet Homes Water Supply and the Pequot Well; In 1997, DEP installed and maintained (for 2 years) whole house granular activated carbon filters to manage risk. Residents were provided written sampling and maintenance recommendations. Subsequently, DEP sent reminders for several years after returning responsibility of filter care to homeowners in 1999. Some homes have connected to public water lines made available as a result of DEP's findings. A few homes continue to use whole house filters where necessary. Long-term monitoring of these groundwater filters should occur, as DEP's final letter to homeowners on private wells was mailed in 2010.

In 2008, further assessment was performed. Additional investigative wells were installed in West Holyoke. Two bedrock wells were installed and

tested for TCE and PCBs. Although results indicated that these contaminants were present, levels were very low. Testing did, however, identify a release from an adjacent business, triggering a separate LSP-driven private well testing effort. Ultimately, affected properties connected to public water.

Similarly, operations at Northeast Utilities power generation facilities along the Connecticut River between 1900 and 1945 resulted in the deposition of Coal Tar within the River. When Holyoke Gas & Electric took ownership of Northeast Utilities' power operations in Holyoke, a comprehensive coal tar removal process commenced. Starting in 2002, excavation has occurred in both wet and dry conditions and has involved numerous municipal, state, and federal permitting agencies. In 2005, coal tar removal began at stretches of the River in the vicinity of Springdale Park. In 2011, additional work was completed within the canal system to remove coal tar deposits. The continuous process of removing coal tar deposits within the River are an example of Holyoke's Commitment to restoring the natural resources within the City.

## Point and Non-point Source Water Pollution

As demonstrated in this plan, Holyoke is a developed city with well-established urban development patterns. As in other cities, development produces surfaces that are impervious to rainwater, inclusive of buildings, roads and parking lots. These impervious surface areas produce non-point source pollution of the City's surface water. During rain events, oil, grease, heavy metals, and other contaminants are captured by rainwater and flushed downstream.

To mitigate the impacts of non-point source pollution, the City relies on a combination of enforcement, permitting, education and construction of new infrastructure. For example, the City of Holyoke filed its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in March of 2003. The scope of work, and the permitting requirements established in this document, require the Department

# 4 Environmental Inventory and Analysis

of Public Works and Conservation Commission inspect all stormwater detention basins, generate public education resources, and stenciling of storm drains. In addition, the City is constantly working to retrofit existing stormwater systems with new, more effective strategies for capturing and treating non-point source pollutants. In some cases, these are public-private partnerships that develop during the redevelopment of a site, and in other cases these activities are funded entirely by the public-sector. Regardless of the funding source, the City is taking its responsibility to remove and eliminate non-point source pollutants and will continue to explore cost-effective strategies for capturing and treating stormwater runoff in a cost-effective manner.

## Planning for Forestry in Holyoke

For the most part, Holyoke is a mixed Oak-Hickory Forest. As noted in Section 4, Vegetation, there are approximately 7,163 acres of forest in Holyoke. As noted above the City will be applying for an Urban Forestry Environmental Justice Challenge grant to develop a long-term 30-year strategic plan for managing the City's urban forest. This will provide historical context, a detailed analysis of species health and longevity issues, a recommended planting schedule and a detailed cost/benefit analysis of managing the City's forests, with special attention paid to the benefits of stormwater management, heat mitigation, and public health. Completion of this plan will allow the City to have a more complete understanding of its forestry issues; information from this plan will be incorporated into the 2017 revision of the City's OSRP.





## Environmental Equity

The City of Holyoke is doing a very good job of providing parks and open space opportunities to its residents. To demonstrate this, a map was produced that plots the location of all known municipal public park parcels and overlays a 1/3 mile perimeter around the parcel boundaries of these parks. One-third of a mile was selected because it represents a

distance that takes the average person, walking at the average pace of 3.1 miles an hour, approximately six minutes to travel. Based upon this distance, 81.2% of the City is within walking distance of a public park. In the downtown neighborhoods, East of I-91, 100% of the residents are within walking distance to a public park. The portion of the community that exhibits the greatest number of households not within walking distance to a public park can be found in the Rock Valley, Smith's Ferry and Homestead Avenue Neighborhoods. However, it should be noted that these neighborhoods are a short drive from either Mount Tom, Ashley Reservoir, or Whiting Reservoir and, based upon the high rates of usage documented in the 2012 OSRP survey data, it is highly likely that residents are taking advantage of these nearby open space and recreational amenities. Altogether, the distribution of park land and open space is one of Holyoke's strongest civic amenities. Threats exist in the form of geographic isolation from surrounding neighborhoods or perceived lack of safety, but, on balance, the City has accomplished a fair and equitable distribution of municipal public parks. Note: this analysis only extends to the geographic location of municipal parks, state parks were omitted from this analysis. Regarding the quality of the parks, some residents did express concern for safety in municipal parks. In order to address this, the Community remains committed to targeting investments in public park infrastructure and relying on community policing to reduce neighborhood-level crime and enhance the safety of our parks.





*(Continued on page 63)*

# Environmental Equity

-  Walkable Distance
-  Municipal Parkland
-  Municipal Playgrounds and Fields
-  Conservation Restriction

## Protected Open Space

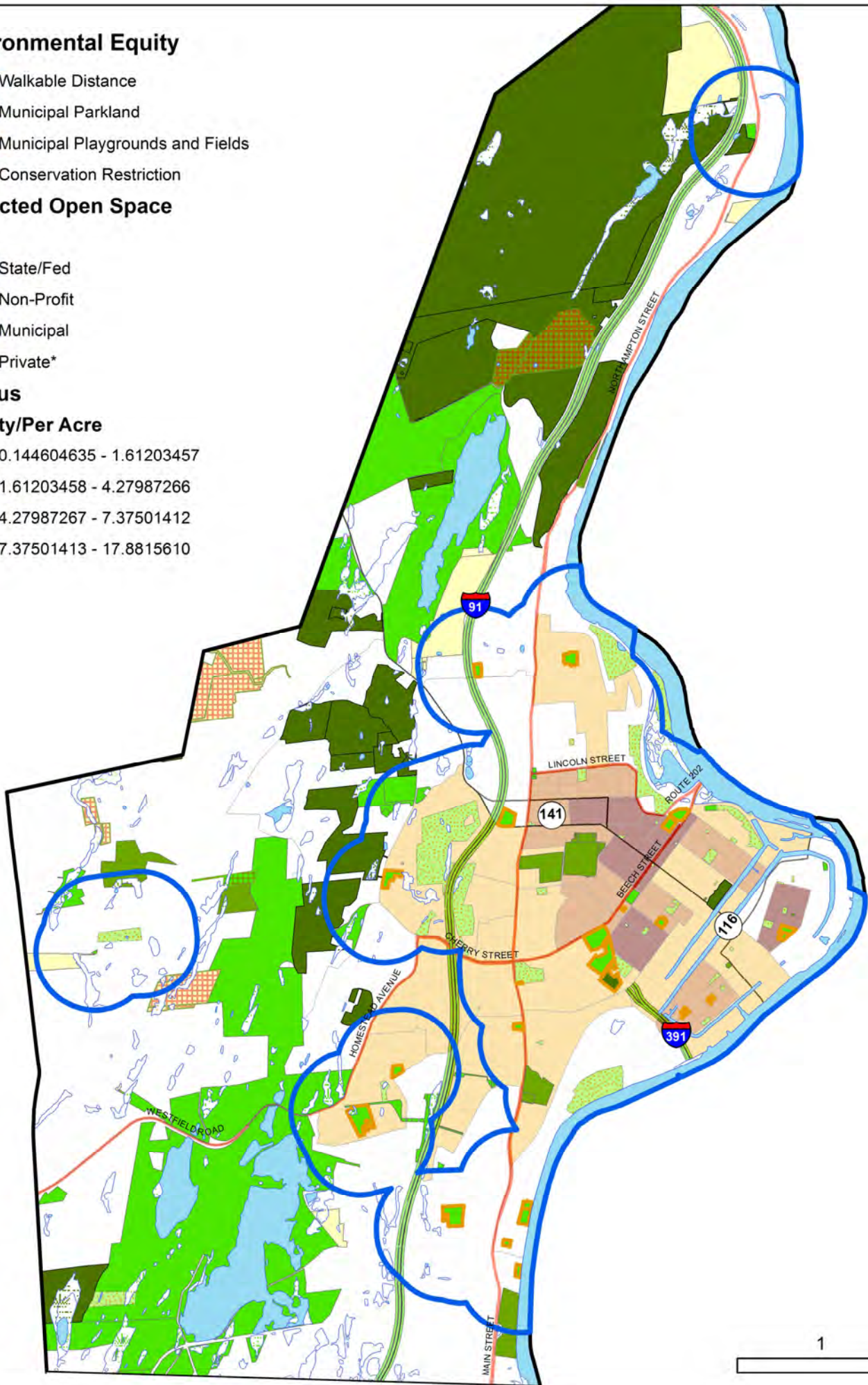
### Type

-  State/Fed
-  Non-Profit
-  Municipal
-  Private\*

## Census





### Density/Per Acre

-  0.144604635 - 1.61203457
-  1.61203458 - 4.27987266
-  4.27987267 - 7.37501412
-  7.37501413 - 17.8815610






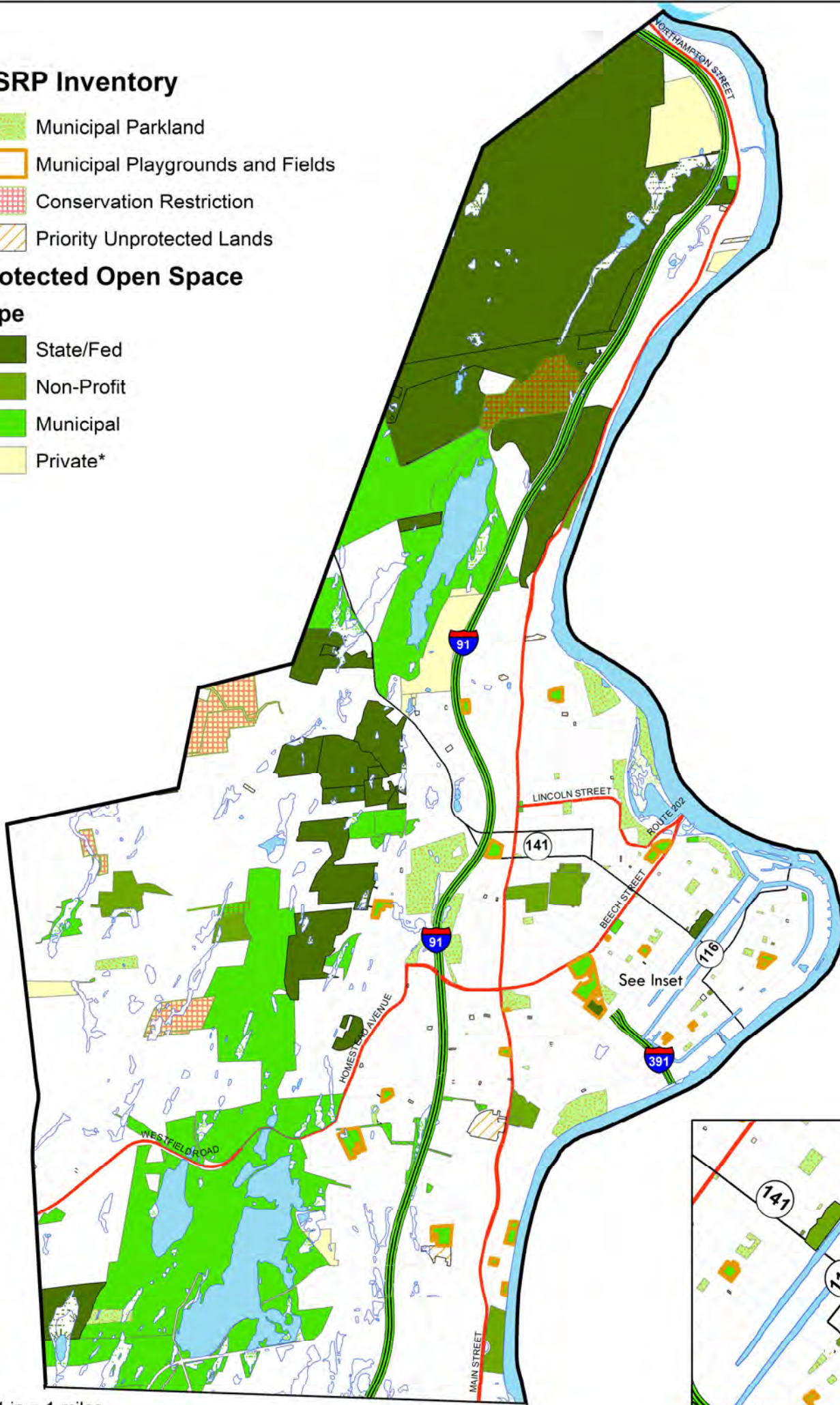
# OSRP Inventory

-  Municipal Parkland
-  Municipal Playgrounds and Fields
-  Conservation Restriction
-  Priority Unprotected Lands

## Protected Open Space

### Type

-  State/Fed
-  Non-Profit
-  Municipal
-  Private\*



1 in = 1 miles

Inset: Downtown  
1:30,000

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Open Space in the City of Holyoke consists of public, private and non-profit farms, forests, parks and parklands. This section has been included in the OSRP to identify these components of the City, so that citizens and policy makers can get a general understanding of where the City's farms, forests, wild lands, parks and recreational areas are located. Some of the farms and forests identified in this section will be permanently protected, the quantity of which is one of Holyoke's greatest strengths, and some of these areas will be moderately protected for the time being. It is up to the City's leaders to determine whether or not additional farms and forests are preserved within the City. Some of the recreational areas identified will be public lands, and some will be private parcels that are functioning as a public amenity, and may continue to do so, for a substantial period of time. An example of a private space serving a public purpose can be found in the City's many community gardens; few of these parcels are permanently protected, so their long-term role within the Community remains undetermined. Again, this document is intended to serve as a tool that enables policy makers and elected officials to decide whether or not to develop or preserve any additional parks and open space.

The survey results from the 2012 OSRP indicated that the citizens of Holyoke value their natural resources. As noted earlier in this document, an overwhelming portion of the City values the scenic attributes of the community—such as the River and Mount Tom—as well as the ecosystem services that Holyoke's clean drinking water system provides to residents. These natural resource, and the protected open space that allows them to exist, provide citizens with clean air, clean surface and ground water, fishing opportunities, and wildlife interaction experiences.

From a Conservation standpoint, there are many different categories of land ownership on the City.

Type of Open Space	Acres in 2012
Chapter 61	325.79
Conservation Restriction	101.00
Municipal Lands	562.53
State Protected Land	2,232.50
Non-Profit Lands	21.62
Holyoke Water Supply	2,402.74
Recreation	244.76
School Department	111.62
Total	6,002.56
Source: Holyoke Assessors' Department, 2012	
<b>TABLE 8</b>	

Land can either be owned by the City, by the State or Federal Government, or by a private conservation agency, such as a land trust. In some cases, there are private property owners in the community that have places conservation restrictions on their land to protect the agricultural or forest resources found on the parcel. Conservation Restrictions represent a legal agreement between a landowner and a conservation agency whereby the parcel's development rights are purchased in order to preserve a parcel in perpetuity. In some instances, owners of agricultural parcels may be eligible for an Agricultural Preservation Restriction, which is a state preservation program that is designed to promote the long-term viability of agriculture. Oftentimes it is assumed that the land that belongs to a the City's municipal water supply is a component of the City's long-term open space profile, but unless a legal restriction is attached to the deed specifying that the land can only be used for water purposes, there is no guarantee that it will be used as such in perpetuity. Finally, there are a few parcels that are currently enrolled in Massachusetts' Chapter 61 Tax Abatement program, which provides short term preservation of land through providing financial incentives for landowners to not develop their property. Oftentimes, because of the short-term nature of the Chapter 61 program, properties enrolled in Chapter 61 are the earliest-to-develop

*(Continued on page 64)*



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

components of a City's open space portfolio. Taken together, this mixture of lands represents the sum total of all the open space that the Citizens of Holyoke have come to appreciate and utilize; this document provides the best possible snapshot of where this land fits into the Community in 2012, based on available data.

Similarly, the City's park system provides recreational opportunities that allow residents to take advantage of playing fields, parks, playground equipment, and multi-purpose facilities, such as the Holyoke Canal Walk. This document also makes the best effort to identify all of the City's recreational lands, using the best possible available data.

For a brief summary of the City's current open space and recreation holdings, please refer to Table 8 above and to the City's Open Space Inventory Map above.

## Explanation of the Benefits of Open Space

The Recreation and Open Land statute (G.L. Ch. 61B) defines open space as land that is "retained in substantially a natural, wild or open condition, or in a landscaped condition as to allow to a significant extent the preservation of wildlife and other natural resources." In order to fulfill the preservation of "wildlife and other natural resources" it is often necessary to secure and protect large, unfragmented tracts of land for an extended period of time. In order to successfully meet these long-term needs, local governments, state governments and non-profit organizations work to provide the funding and resources necessary for conserving land for current and future generations. While objections are sometimes raised about the initial cost associated with allocating funding for land preservation, a large and significant body of multi-disciplinary research has demonstrated significant social, environmental and economic benefits accrue to communities that make commitments to open space preservation.

One of the most frequently studied aspects of land

conservation is that of the immediate economic costs and benefits of permanently protected open space. The American Farmland Trust developed a methodology in the 1980s that sought to quantify the financial benefits of preserved land. These Costs of Community Service (COCS) examine a town's municipal budget and discern that amount of tax dollars a given parcel generates compared to the amount of municipal services—police, fire, library, education—it consumes on an annual basis. In a COCS study, researchers organize financial records to assign the cost of municipal services to working and open lands, as well as to residential, commercial and industrial development. The analysis is then simplified to analyze the ratio of tax dollars generated to municipal services required. These studies have been conducted throughout the nation and have repeatedly demonstrated that preserved open space is a net contributor to a town's budget. As of 2012, the national median demonstrates that working open land (e.g. active forest land that has been preserved with



Photo: Active Agricultural Land in Holyoke (The Trustees)



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

a conservation restriction) requires \$0.37 in services for every dollar it generates. This represents a net surplus of \$0.67 per dollar of services. In comparison, the median residential value is \$1.19, which means that for every dollar a residential property brings in, the median town is short \$0.19 for its funding needs required to provide municipal services to a residential property.

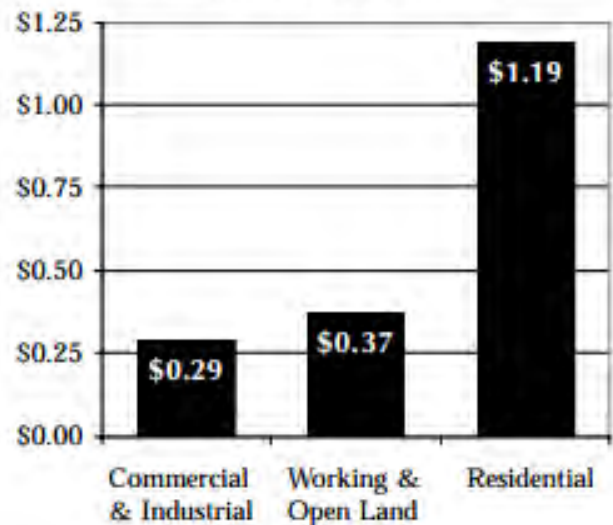
COCS studies are only one branch of economic research dedicated to studying the financial benefits of open space. Recent economic theory has focused on identifying and quantifying the non-market (i.e. non-financial) values of open space. This field of inquiry relies on techniques like Hedonic Analysis and Contingent Valuation to determine the value of open space. In these studies, the analysis has been refined to examine aspects like: the financial benefits derived from scenic views; the number of jobs created by natural resources; the costs avoided when a community does not need to construct an expensive water filtration system because a forest provides that service; or the costs a community avoids because a forest, rather than a neighborhood, absorbs a raging flood. Hedonic analyses, dating back to the 1960s, have demonstrated, consistently, that properties that are in close proximity to protected open space have a greater value than comparable properties that are not adjacent to open space. Contingent Valuation studies are relatively new and have yet to produce a consistently reliable set of data, yet the current findings tend to indicate that people are willing to pay extra to preserve land and, therefore, may prefer landscapes with preserved open space to those that do not contain open space.

Economic research on the value of open space is constantly evolving, but one general consensus that has emerged is that the picture is more complicated than simply accounting for the original financial expenditure required to purchase an open space property.

### Social Benefits of Open Space

Numerous case studies have demonstrated that open space tends to increase social interaction between a

**Median COCS Results**



*Median cost per dollar of revenue raised to provide public services to different land uses.*

city's residents. This is attributed to neighbors, living in reasonably close proximity, making repeated unstructured trips to a shared destination. This repetition has been studied and has been shown to be a source of social capital that helps bind a community together. Moreover, the provision of open space results in opportunities for citizens to seek respite from the stress of everyday urban living. This is evidenced by the strong emotional attachment citizens of Holyoke expressed, in survey data, for the City's reservoirs, scenic views and parkland.

### Ecological Benefits of Open Space

Open Space provides a wide range of ecosystem services. For example, Holyoke's forests and woodlands provide oxygen, filter stormwater to make it drinkable, provide lumber for paper and fuel, and provide habitat for an astonishing array of wildlife. Forested woodlands and wetlands provide crucial habitat for reptiles, such as spotted salamanders, and admired migratory bird species, such as the yellow-breasted sapsucker. Songbirds (e.g., chestnut-sided warblers and veeries) and birds of prey (e.g., red-shouldered hawk, barred owl) are also known to

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

frequent Holyoke's woods. In addition, game species, such as white tail deer and wood ducks, also rely on the City's habitat to meet their breeding and feeding requirements. Many of the species that thrive in Holyoke's wildlands have developed specific needs that can only be met in the type of densely-forested environment found throughout the Community.

In addition to providing habitat for wildlife, wild lands play a significant role in protecting the public safety, health, and welfare of Holyoke. The water stored in wetlands reduces downstream flooding risks while improving surface water quality through natural filtration of pollutants that would otherwise enter our water supply. Without the ecological benefits derived from open space, Holyoke's water quality and water supply would be diminished, as woodlands and wetlands found in open space are largely responsible for filtering Holyoke's highly-prized surface drinking water and groundwater drinking supplies.

Finally, Holyoke's large tracts of unfragmented open space provide migratory corridors for fascinating mammals, such as bear and moose, that need large territories in order to thrive.

## Explanation of the Word "Protected"

According to the Massachusetts Open Space Planners' Workbook, "the term 'open space' is often used to refer to conservation land, forested land, recreation land, agricultural land, corridor parks and amenities such as small parks, green buffers along roadways or any open area that is owned by an agency or organization dedicated to conservation. However, the term can also refer to undeveloped land with particular conservation or recreation interest. This includes vacant lots and brownfields that can be redeveloped into recreation areas. Some open space can be used for passive activities such as walking, hiking, and nature study while others are used for more active recreational uses including soccer, tennis, or baseball. Throughout this document, the term is used with this broader definition in mind.

Open Space can be preserved indefinitely, or temporarily, depending on its level of protection. The following categories, generated by MassGIS, provide a framework for understanding the varying length's of time.

In Perpetuity (P) - Legally protected in perpetuity and recorded as such in a deed or other official document. Land is considered protected in perpetuity if it is owned by the town's conservation commission or, sometimes, by the water department; if a town has a conservation restriction on the property in perpetuity; if it is owned by one of the state's conservation agencies (thereby covered by article 97); if it is owned by a non-profit land trust; or if the town received federal or state assistance for the purchase or improvement of the property.

Private land is considered protected if it has a deed restriction in perpetuity, if an Agriculture Preservation Restriction has been placed on it, or a Conservation Restriction has been placed on it.

Temporary (T) - Legally protected for less than perpetuity (e.g. short term conservation restriction or Chap61 lands), or temporarily protected through an existing functional use. For example, some water district lands are only temporarily protected while water resource protection is their primary use.

These lands could be developed for other uses at the end of their temporary protection or when their functional use is no longer necessary. These lands will revert to unprotected status at a given date unless protection status is extended.

Limited (L) - Protected by legal mechanisms other than those above, or protected through functional or traditional use.

These lands might be protected by a requirement of a majority municipal vote for any change in status. This designation also includes lands that are likely to remain open space for other reasons (e.g. cemeteries and municipal golf courses).

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Private Recreation and Conservation Parcels

### Chapter 61 Lands

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts recognizes that agriculture, forestry, and certain types of outdoor recreation contribute greatly to the economy of the state, to its environmental health, and to its scenic beauty. However, without proactive landowners, these lands can be assessed for their potential as development sites. To reduce the tax burden on property owners, the Commonwealth has enacted M.G.L. Chapter 61, which authorizes tax reductions to the owners of parcels used for agriculture, active forestry, and some kinds of outdoor recreation (such as golf courses and ski areas). Chapter 61 is available to landowners with five (5) or more acres and is segregated into three different programs. Chapter 61 was designed to reduce tax bills for forestland. Chapter 61A was designed to reduce tax bills agricultural land which may include forestland and Chapter 61B was designed to reduce tax bills recreational land which can also include forestland.

The landowner receives a considerable break on property taxes, as the final tax bill is calculated not on the value of a land as a developable lot, but rather as a farm, forest or recreational site. Property owners interested in calculating their estimated tax savings can access [www.masswoods.net](http://www.masswoods.net) for a Chapter 61 calculator that will estimate possible tax savings. In return for a lower tax bill, a property owner agrees to grant the right of first refusal to the community. This means that if a landowner wishes to develop the land or wants to sell the land to someone who wants to develop it, the community is first in line to buy the property (at a fair market price agreeable to both the City and the seller). The landowner will also have to pay back to the City the taxes for the previous few years that would have been assessed without Chapter 61 status.

While there is a financial incentive for landowners to keep their land as open space, the land is not per-

manently protected from development. In practice, communities seldom exercise their rights of first refusal and Chapter 61 lands have been lost to development throughout the Commonwealth. The City of Holyoke has never exercised its right of first refusal and has not enacted policy or procedures for acting quickly. The best use of the Chapter 61 program, for any municipality, is to plan whether or not the Chapter 61 parcels ought to be acquired or otherwise protected for the purposes of reservoir watershed protection, rare species protection, greenway and trails creation, parks and playing fields, or important aesthetic values. The City can assign its right of first refusal to a non-profit conservation organization, if desired; as such an organization may have the financial resources to buy appropriate parcels. Establishing a Chapter 61 plan is one strategy within this Plan.

*Table 9 And Map 23* lists all the parcels in Holyoke that are enrolled in the Chapter 61 program. For the purposes of this map and table, Ch. 61 are forested sites, Ch. 61A are farms, and Ch. 61B are outdoor recreation sites. While useful for tax purposes for property owners, Chapter 61 sites also serve as a good indicator of potential conservation and recreation parcels for Holyoke to acquire. Many of these properties are already providing open space and recreational benefits to the Community and proactive planning about whether or not the City would wish to exercise its right of first refusal on any of these parcels should happen in the near future in order to allow the City to be proactive, rather than reactive, as these parcels begin to exit the Chapter 61 program. The long-term trend in Holyoke indicates that there will be fewer and fewer Chapter 61 parcels available for the City to act on. For example, as of 2012, a total of 325.79 acres are enrolled in the Chapter 61 program in Holyoke, which is a decrease from the 805.55 acres that were enrolled when the 2005 OSRP was completed. This is a drop in approximately 500 acres. For example, some large Chapter 61 properties, such as the Wyckoff Country Club, left Chapter 61 enrollment in 2011 due to development interest.




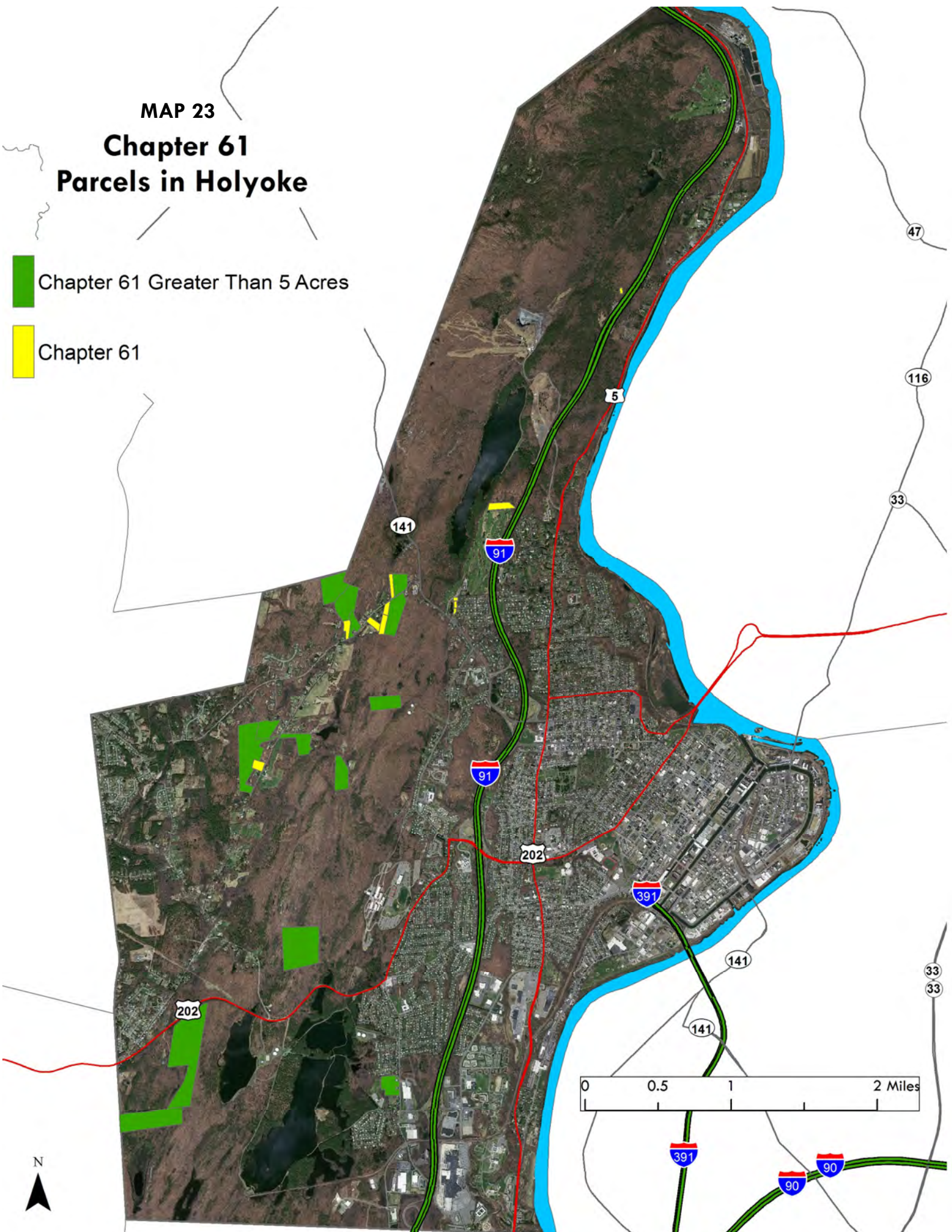
# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

For the purposes of this plan, remaining Chapter 61 parcels have been ranked according to their conservation potential. In the table that follows, the column labeled “Conservation/Recreation Value” lists the attributes of each parcel that are of recreational or conservation interest. The attributes considered were as follows:

- Location within the Barnes Aquifer (the Water Resource Protection Overlay District);
- Location within the secondary recharge area for Barnes Aquifer (the Water Resource Protection Overlay District);
- Location within the watershed areas for the City reservoirs (the Water Resource Protection Overlay District);
- Location within the 100-year flood plain as designated on the most recent FEMA FIRM Maps;
- Land which provides access to the Connecticut River;
- Land with prime agricultural soils;
- Land within Priority Habitat or Estimated Habitat of Rare Wetlands Wildlife;
- and Land Along the New England Trail (formerly the Massabsett-Metacomet-Monadnock Trail).

**MAP 23**  
**Chapter 61**  
**Parcels in Holyoke**

-  Chapter 61 Greater Than 5 Acres
-  Chapter 61



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

**TABLE 9**

<b>Parcel</b>	<b>Street Name</b>	<b>Conservation/ Recreation Value</b>	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>61 Enrollment</b>
186-00-008	Mountain Rd	NET , rare species , watershed	44	Chpt 61
181-00-155	Apremont HWY	Secondary recharge, rare species , NET	68.64	Chpt 61
207-00-003	Mountain Rd	Rare species, watershed	20	Chpt 61
200-00-001	West Cherry St	Existing recreation, rare species, watershed	11	Chpt 61
199-00-004	Mountain Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species, aquifer recharge	2.902	Chpt 61A
202-00-026	Mountain Rd	Secondary recharge, rare species	10.77	Chpt 61A
199-00-001	Mountain Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species, aquifer recharge	34	Chpt 61A
202-00-020	Mountain Rd	Secondary recharge, rare species	10.8	Chpt 61A
178-00-001	Apremont HWY	Aquifer recharge	30	Chpt 61A
208-00-017	Southampton Rd	Open Space, agriculture	3	Chpt 61A
208-00-002	Southampton Rd	Open Space, agriculture	2.56	Chpt 61A
174-00-003	Homestead	Agricultural Soils	10.701	Chpt 61A



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Parcel	Street Name	Conservation/Recreation Values	Total Acres	61 Enrollment
208-00-011	Southampton Rd	Aquifer recharge, rare species, agricultural soils	1.75	Chpt 61A
210-00-002	Southampton Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species	16	Chpt 61A
211-00-009	Southampton Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species	8.25	Chpt 61A
208-00-001	Southampton Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species	16.75	Chpt 61A
208-00-004	Southampton Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species	6.54	Chpt 61A
208-00-015	Southampton Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species	2.521	Chpt 61A
211-00-013	Southampton Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species	16.08	Chpt 61A
211-00-008	Southampton Rd	Agricultural soils, rare species	2.68	Chpt 61A
222-00-012; 222-00-013	Ferry Rd	Recreation, floodplain, rare species	0.22688	Chpt 61B
227-00-001	Northampton St	Recreation	0.12741	Chpt 61B
227-00-002	Northampton St	Recreation	0.0225	Chpt 61B

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Parcel	Street Name	Conservation/ Recreation Value	Total Acres	61 Enrollment
139-00-030	Mount Tom Ave	Existing recreation	0.27078	Chpt 61B
141-00-003	Calvin Ln	Watershed Land	0.51625	Chpt 61B
141-00-007	Woodbridge St	Existing recreation	0.6837	Chpt 61B
213-00-006A	Easthampton Rd	Existing recreation	4.54	Chpt 61B

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## ***Private Recreation Parcels (not in Chapter 61)***

Table 10 lists recreational parcels that are privately owned. This table does not include parcels in the Chapter 61 program. Note that these parcels, in general, have no legal protection against a change of use other than recreation. While sites such as the Boys and Girls Club or the YMCA are not likely to be taken out of recreational use, the parcels for the community gardens are very likely to be developed at some point, forcing the gardens to move elsewhere. The peninsula around Log Pond Cove, while subject to frequent flooding and therefore not likely to be built upon, is both fragile and important wildlife habitat and a significant flood storage area. Development of this area for active recreation (such as ball fields) or even much in the way of passive recreation (such as trails) is very likely to disturb the habitat value.



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

**TABLE 10**

Name/Owner	Parcel	Acreage	Facilities	Public Access
Nuestras Raices <i>El Jardín Girasol</i> (the Sunflower Garden)	034-01-009	0.16	Community garden no longer has the dozens of sunflowers that it is named after but it now has 17 members and has won awards for the most productive garden in Holyoke.	Restricted to gardeners
Community Garden/ Harold & Morton Haberman <i>et al.</i> <i>El Jardín La Piedra</i> (the Garden of the Rock)	003-01-018	0.19	Community garden used by 17 families.	Restricted to gardeners
Community Garden/ Lyman Terrace	013-01-001	0.15	Community garden used by 8 families, youth	Restricted to gardeners
Community Garden/ Robert Paul <i>Jardín CiudadVerde</i>	062-03-001	0.14	Community garden is Market Garden, 1 farmer, youth.	Restricted to gardeners
Community Garden/ Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield <i>La Finquita</i>	028-01-001	0.21	Community garden has 31 family plots, 1 plot for Broderick House homeless shelter, youth.	Restricted to gardeners
Community Garden <i>Jardin CuentaConmigo</i>	West Street Alley	0.15	Community garden used by 16 families	Restricted to gardeners
Community Garden/ Jarvis Heights	146-00-013	0.15	Community Garden used by 14 families	Restricted to gardeners
Community Garden/ Nuestras Raices <i>Centro Agricola</i>	030-08-011 030-08-012	0.19	Community Center, small business development, restaurant, plaza, greenhouse, community kitchen	Open to public
Community Garden/ <i>Tierra de Oportunidades Project</i>	118-00-011 118-00-012 118-00-013	4.58	Farm incubation, environmental education, youth space	Restricted to gardeners
YMCA of Western Massachusetts	061-01-001 061-01-002	1.62	Athletic facilities	Restricted to members, membership open to public

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Name/Owner	Parcel	Acreage	Facilities	Public Access
Boys & Girl s Club	011-03-003 011-03-004 011-03-005 020-02-010 217-00-006	23.5204	Athletic facilities and abandoned portions of Mount Tom Ski Area.	Downtown Services open to public; Mt Tom Ski programs, pending.
Holyoke Elks Lodge	173-00-027	14.33	Soccer fields, playing fields	Team sports and members
Pilsudski Park Trust	189-00-002	18.4	Natural setting, pavilion	None
Holyoke Canoe Club	222-00-003	9.54	Tennis Courts, Swimming, Boat Access	Membership
Holyoke Country Club	226-00-001	115.25	Golf	Membership
Wyckoff Country Club	139-00-003	81.95	Golf	Membership
Mount Park Concerts	213-00-019	52.26	Outdoor Entertainment Venue	Open to Public

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Private Cemeteries

Table 11 lists all the private cemeteries in Holyoke. In addition to honoring family members, cemeteries provide opportunities for residents to partake in passive recreation and enjoy the benefits of a quiet, contemplative setting.

**TABLE 11**

Name /Owner	Map-Block-Parcel	Acre-age	Current Use	Natural Resource/Recreational Potential	Zoning
Calvary Cemetery/ Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield	114-00-066	15.0	Ceme- tery	Walking	R-2
Elmwood Cemetery/ Elmwood Cemetery Assoc.	115-00-019; 115-00-020	2.81	Ceme- tery	Walking	R-2
Forestdale Ceme- tery/ Forestdale Cemetery Assoc.	077-07-001; 077-07-002; 077-07-018; 090-00-014; 090-00-015; 090-00-016; 090-00-017; 090-00-026; 090-00-037; 090-00-038; 090-00-047; 090-00-048	31.41	Ceme- tery	Walking	R-2
Forestdale Cemetery Extension/ Forestdale Cemetery Assoc.	198-00-015	42.47	Open field	Reserved for future use as cemetery	RA
St. Jerome Ceme- tery/ Roman Catho- lic Bishop of Spring- field	107-00-001	20.8	Ceme- tery	Walking	R-2



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Parcels and Conservation Restrictions Owned by Private Conservation Organizations

Several private conservation organizations, including The Trustees of Reservations, the Trust for Public Land and the Connecticut River Watershed Council, own parcels or conservation restrictions on parcels in Holyoke, as detailed in Table 12 and Table 13.

The Trustees of Reservations own the Dinosaur Footprints Reservation off Northampton Street in Smiths Ferry, as well as a parcel located across Northampton Street between the Footprints and the former Mountain Park. This is one of the few examples of in situ tracks in Massachusetts and one of the few examples in the world of evidence of herding behavior by dinosaurs. Currently the tracks are subject to vandalism and highway runoff. The Trustees successfully upgraded the area and have made Holyoke its western headquarters to increase its profile. Because of the Reservation's location between Northampton Street and the railroad tracks adjacent to the Connecticut River, this area could serve as access to the river, if the question of a railroad crossing could be resolved. It may also serve as a destination or access for the Connecticut Riverwalk, a pedestrian and bicycle path currently being planned for the general riverfront vicinity. The Trustees of Reservations purchased Little Mt. Tom in 2002 as part of the Mt. Tom land protection project. Efforts to incorporate this parcel with Mount Tom and the surrounding area are ongoing, and the largest cloud on the horizon for the Mount Tom parcel remains the unresolved long-term plan for the former Mount Tom Ski Area. In 2011, the Boys & Girls Club initiated a strategic visioning session to chart the long-term vision for this property.

The Connecticut River Watershed Council owns one parcel outright in Holyoke, off Mountain Road in West Holyoke, and also holds conservation restrictions on four parcels in West Holyoke. These restrictions specify that no future development take place on the four parcels. The restrictions do not create public access to the parcels. The Watershed Council

does allow public access to the parcel it owns outright, however it was landlocked until 2012. In 2012, the Office of Planning & Economic Development and the Conservation Commission worked collaboratively to deed a portion of land on Mountain Road to the Conservation Commission in order to provide access to this parcel from Mountain Road. This is important because the New England Scenic Trail runs through this parcel. The Holyoke Conservation Commission and the Connecticut River Watershed Council are working to transfer the all of the land that belongs to the watershed council to the Conservation Commission.

Land Conservation activities in Holyoke are consistent, but not annual. For example, In 2000 the Nature Conservancy purchased fourteen acres formerly owned by Anna Morse adjacent to the Whiting Street Reservoir completing protection of the watershed areas around Whiting Street Reservoir. In 2004 the Trust for Public Land purchased the Kallmeyer land along the Connecticut River and subsequently sold it in 2005 to Nuestras Raices for an urban farming program and riverfront educational center. The preservation of this parcel has allowed Holyoke to secure some of its most important agricultural soils and prevent the conversion of this land to a non-agricultural use.

For the purposes of this section, lands held in fee are displayed in one table and lands protected by a conservation restriction (CR) are displayed in another table. For the purposes of this section, fee simple is intended to connote exclusive ownership while CR is intended to identify parcels that are protected through restriction of development potential through acquisition of development rights.

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

**TABLE 12**

Name /Owner	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Use	Condition	Recreational Potential
Dinosaur Tracks/TTOR	215-00-001	5.6	Preservation of fossil dinosaur tracks; Ct. River	Good—recent investments have made this a more high-profile location	Good to fossil tracks; illegal access to river across active RR tracks; no handicapped access
Little Mt. Tom/TTOR	217-00-007	73.53	Priority Habitat	Excellent	Hiking, bird watching, winter activities
Burgee Tract, Rear of Mountain Rd.*	194-00-004	26.33	Wooded area	Good	Hunting, hiking
Former Kohlmeier land	118-00-013; 118-00-012; 118-00-011	4.16		Good	Bird watching, hiking, agriculture
*=Permanent protection					

Parcels held by Conservation Organizations (above)

Conservation Restrictions held by Conservation Organizations (below)

**TABLE 13**

Owner of Land	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Attributes	Condition	Public Access	Zoning
Robert & Theresa Wheatley*	190-00-034 190-00-035 190-00-036 190-00-037 190-00-012 191-00-001 187-00-017	44 acres (restriction)     71.06 (total parcel acreage)	Wooded; adjacent to Broad Brook	Good	None	RA
Charles Bluemer*	198-00-001	2.966	Broad Brook and adjacent wetland	Good	None	RA
Charles Bluemer*	198-00-002A	3.153	Wooded; residence	Good	None	RA
Kenneth & Constance Bluemer*	203-00-005	7.943	Broad Brook and adjacent wetland	Good	None	RA
* Conservation Restriction Held by the Connecticut River Watershed Association						

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Other Private Conservation and Recreational Resources

The properties discussed in this section are here because they are privately owned parcels that are of interest for conservation or recreational purposes. Inclusion here does not imply that the City, the state, or any conservation organization is necessarily interested in acquiring or otherwise protecting these lands. They are listed here, as an inventory of unprotected lands not discussed elsewhere and as an aid to discussion of future actions.

## Farms (not in Chapter 61A)

There are no farms in Holyoke that are not in the Chapter 61A program.

## Estates

There are three large estates in Holyoke that may be developed in the future (Table 14).

## Major Institutional Holdings

Aside from Holyoke Community College (listed under state-owned parcels), the only major institutions holding large acreages in Holyoke are two religious orders, the Sisters of Providence (116-00-004) and the Sisters of Saint Joseph (Parcel 118-00-005). Together, these two parcels account for approximately 67 acres worth of campus-like land in the Ingleside neighborhood. The long-term plans and viability of these organizations will help to preserve the undeveloped portions of the Ingleside neighborhood.

**TABLE 14**

Name	Parcel	Acre-age	Owner	Notes	Location
Daniel O'Connell (Residential Zoning)	183-00-003+5	62.62	Daniel O'Connell; Leo Byrnes executor	Limited development opportunities, on ridge, MMM Trail, rare and endangered species,	Westfield Road
Whiting Farms Estate Marion Whiting (Residential Zoning)	170-00-030	22.93	Estate of Marion Whiting	Includes 3 branches of Tannery Brook; currently undeveloped; acts as buffer between commercial and residential uses	Homestead Avenue
Williams Estate Edna Williams (Business and Residential Zones)	212-00-001; 212-00-002; 211-00-002	60.3	Estate of Edna Williams	The City of Holyoke Currently owns these parcels for tax title purposes. The location of these parcels makes them desirable for both business and conservation purposes.	Route 101, near Easthampton/Holyoke Town Line



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Undeveloped Lands

This section lists parcels over ten acres in size that are classified by the City Assessors' Office as undeveloped land, even if it appears elsewhere in this plan. Note that most large undeveloped parcels in Holyoke are on the mountain range and usually include rare and endangered species habitat. Also, a large tract of land will not be classified as undeveloped if there are any structures on the site. Therefore, a parcel such as where the transmission towers are on Mt. Tom will not appear on this list, even though the vast majority of that large (172.0 acre) parcel is undeveloped. See Map 25 . Inclusion in this table does not comment in suitability for conservation or development, but only serves to highlight the fact that the Assessor's have identified these parcels as undeveloped lands.

**TABLE 15**

Type	Map-Block-Parcel	Acre-age	Owner	Zoning	Notes
Watershed	183-00-014	538.50	Holyoke Water Dept.	RA	Ashley Reservoir watershed
Watershed	193-00-001	498.00	Holyoke Water Dept.	RA	Reservoir Watershed
Watershed	213-00-006	371.80	Holyoke Water Dept.	RA	Whiting Reservoir and watershed
Conserved	217-00-008	140.82	US Fish & Wildlife	RA	Former Mt. Tom Ski Area
Conserved	141-00-001	121.44	Mass DCR	RA, R-1	Eastern half is reservoir watershed
Conserved	216-00-001	121.89	Mass DCR	RA	Former Mt. Tom Ski Area parcel between Mt. Park Rd. and Rt.5
Conserved	217-00-004	118.08	Mass DCR	RA	Former Mt. Tom Ski Area
Conserved	217-00-003	64.79	Mass DCR	RA	Former Mt. Tom Ski Area

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Type	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Owner	Zoning	Notes
Conserved	144-00-005	14.83	Mass Fish & Wildlife	R-1	Reservoir watershed
Conserved	145-00-017	86.00	Mass. Fish & Wildlife	R-1	Reservoir watershed, endangered species
Conserved	200-00-004	84.51	Mass. Fish & Wildlife	RA	Reservoir Watershed
Conserved	207-00-004	15.00	Mass Fish & Wildlife	R-1	Reservoir watershed
Conserved	211-00-003	29.14	Mass Fish & Wildlife	RA	Former Edmonds Estate
Conserved	213-00-005	14.00	Mass. Fish & Wildlife	RA	Reservoir watershed
Conserved	217-00-007	73.53	The Trustees of Reservations	RA	Former Mt. Tom
Conserved	209-00-013	23.86	John Kuzeja	RA	Aquifer recharge, conservation restriction
Conserved	209-00-015	27.44	John Kuzeja	RA	Aquifer recharge, conservation restriction
Partially Conserved	190-00-036	33.63	Robert & Therese Wheatley	RA	Conservation restriction (in part)
Protected Chapter 61	181-00-155	68.63	John S. Lane & Sons	RA	Watershed/aquifer recharge, slope
Protected Chapter 61	199-00-001	34.00	Arthur Sattler	RA	Aquifer recharge
Protected Chapter 61	178-00-001	30.00	Alan Fini	RA	Aquifer recharge
Undeveloped Land	071-00-020	40.30	Holyoke G&E	R-1	Log Pond Cove
Undeveloped Land	226-00-009	48.24	Holyoke Water Power Co.	IG, IP	South of Mt. Tom Power Plant
Undeveloped Land	064-00-001	43.20	Holyoke Water Power Co.	R-1, RA, R-1A, IP, IG	Abandoned RR track along river for the Northern portion of the City.
Undeveloped Land	195-00-029	80.00	Bruce Gloutak	RA	Aquifer recharge, potential future subdivision
Undeveloped Land	213-00-004	80.00	HG&E	RA	Transmission towers
Undeveloped Land	186-00-009	79.22	John & Louise Carpenter	RA	Reservoir watershed; slope
Undeveloped Land	178-00-002	64.00	Clinton Partners c/o Mark Spitzer	RA	Slope

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Type	Map-Block-Parcel	Acre-age	Owner	Zoning	Notes
Undeveloped Land	071-00-020	40.30	Holyoke G&E	R-1	Log Pond Cove
Undeveloped Land	226-00-009	48.24	Holyoke Water Power Co.	IG, IP	South of Mt. Tom Power Plant
Undeveloped Land	064-00-001	43.20	Holyoke Water Power Co.	R-1, RA, R-1A, IP, IG	Abandoned RR track along river for the Northern portion of the City.
Undeveloped Land	195-00-029	80.00	Bruce Gloutak	RA	Aquifer recharge, potential future subdivision
Undeveloped Land	213-00-004	80.00	HG&E	RA	Transmission towers
Undeveloped Land	186-00-009	79.22	John & Louise Carpenter	RA	Reservoir watershed; slope
Undeveloped Land	178-00-002	64.00	Clinton Partners c/o Mark Spitzer	RA	Slope
Undeveloped Land	212-00-001	53.50	Edna Williams	BG	City-owned for tax title purposes.
Undeveloped Land	209-00-012	34.36	Anna Block	RA	Aquifer recharge
Undeveloped Land	187-00-001	29.27	Robert & Theresa Wheatley	RA	Aquifer recharge, wetlands
Undeveloped Land	187-00-005	30.91	Robert Proulx	RA	Aquifer recharge, wetlands
Undeveloped Land	170-00-030	22.93	Marion Whiting	R-1A	Includes 3 branches of Tannery Brook



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Name	Map-Block-Parcel	Acre-age	Owner	Zoning	Notes
Undeveloped Land	178-00-004	22.00	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	RA	Reservoir Watershed
Undeveloped Land	207-00-003	20.00	Daniel O'Connell & Sons, Inc.	RA	Reservoir Watershed
Undeveloped Land	186-00-008	44.00	Daniel O'Connell & Sons, Inc.	RA	Reservoir Watershed
Undeveloped Land	191-00-003	20.00	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	RA	Reservoir Watershed
Undeveloped Land	183-00-003+5	37.50	Daniel O'Connell et al	RA	Reservoir Watershed; slope
Undeveloped Land	203-00-017	10.00	Patrick Kennedy c/o Ethel Donohue	RA	Aquifer recharge
Undeveloped Land	120-00-012	11.00	HEDIC	IP	To be developed
Undeveloped Land	198-00-001 198-00-002	11.45	Charles Bluemer	RA	Conservation restriction (in part)
Undeveloped Land	195-00-015	14.00	Norman & Pauline Godbout	RA	Aquifer recharge
Undeveloped Land	218-00-007	19.44	J.R.H. Realty, Inc.	RM-20	Ledge, development challenges
Undeveloped Land	193-00-005	25.00	Timothy Maloney c/o Edward Foley	R-1	Reservoir watershed
Undeveloped Land	146-00-016	16.51	Mark Berezin TR	RM-20	Wetlands, brook, adjacent to Scott Tower, Wyatt Harper Park, and Sullivan School. Adjacent to I91, development pressures
Undeveloped Land	148-00-001	17.00	William Murray	R-1	Partially being developed, future development also proposed.
Undeveloped Land	116-00-001	18.70	HEDIC	IP	To be developed
Undeveloped Land	176-00-014	14.32	Pyramid Company of Holyoke	IP, BH	To be developed potentially

# Parcels Greater Than 10 Acres

MAP 25

## 10 Acres or More-Unprotected



10 Acres or More-Unprotected

## Protected Open Space



State and Federal



Non-Profit

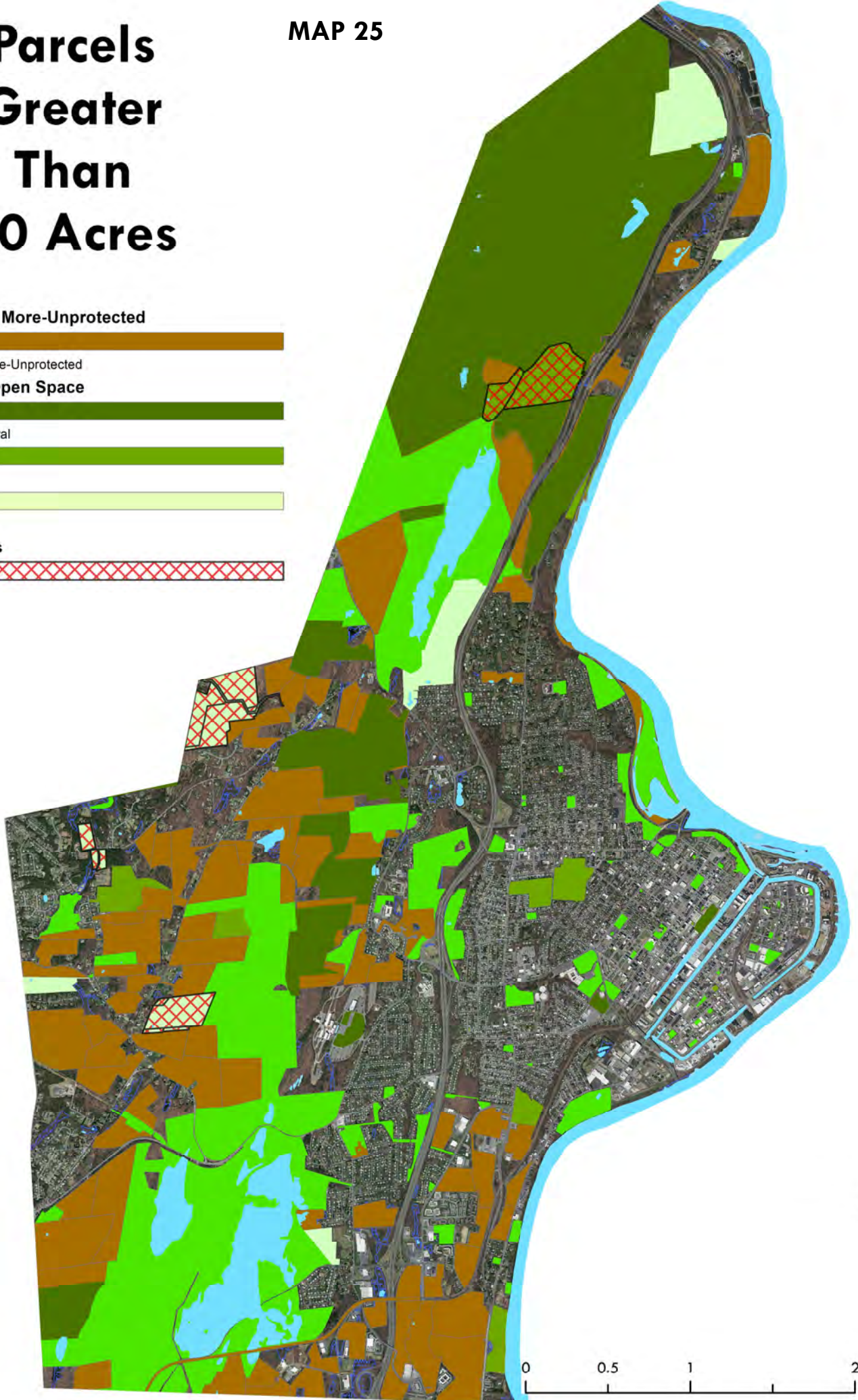


Private

## Restrictions



CR



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## **Unprotected Reservoir Watershed Parcels**

These parcels are within the watersheds of the City reservoirs, but are privately owned. Since these parcels are not under complete City control, there may be a possible threat to water quality from current or future activities on these sites. Not every watershed parcel is listed here (very small parcels, particularly if there is already a home or other building there, are not included), but the parcels below are ones the Holyoke Water Department should consider acquiring, either outright or as a conservation restriction, to protect drinking water for the City. Note that the City has the first of first refusal on those parcels under Ch. 61, 61A, or 61B.

While acquiring these parcels is important, one should remember that most of the City's water comes from the Tighe-Carmody Reservoir in Southamptton. Acquiring unprotected watershed properties there should probably be of greater priority than the parcels listed below.

**TABLE 16**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Map-Block- Parcel</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Owner/ Managing Agency</b>	
Wyckoff Country Club	139-00-003 139-00-030 141-00-002 141-00-003 141-00-007 213-00-006A	92.75 total	Wyckoff Associates	Most is in watershed; in Ch. 61B
Reservoir Watershed	171-00-031	4.25	Geraldine & Jennifer Cain	Wetlands
Reservoir Watershed	173-00-027	14.9	Holyoke Lodge of Elks	Northwestern half is in watershed
Reservoir Watershed	180-00-002	5.19	Daniel O'Connell et al.	Landlocked, adjacent to McClean, for sale
Reservoir Watershed	186-00-008	44.0	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	Includes part of old trolley line; in Ch. 61



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

Name	Map-Block- Parcel	Acreage	Owner/ Managing Agency	
Reservoir Watershed	191-00-003	20.0	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	Eastern half is in watershed
Reservoir Watershed	1 9 3 - 0 0 - 005+6	26.04	Timothy Mahoney c/o Edward Foley	
Holyoke Revolver Club	200-00-001 200-00-002 200-00-003	35.5 total	Holyoke Revolver Club, Inc.	In Ch. 61
Reservoir Watershed	206-00-035	79.0	John & Genevieve Mulcahy	Eastern fifth is in watershed; in Ch. 61A
Reservoir Watershed	207-00-003	20.0	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	In Ch. 61
Reservoir Watershed	208-00-018	8.44	Robert Sullivan Yorczyk & Richard August Yorczyk	
Reservoir Watershed	211-00-014	3.66	Raymond & Jill Dulude	
HG&E	213-00-001	172.0	HG&E	Two-thirds is in watershed, transmission towers

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Other Parcels

Many other parcels in the City are valuable for aesthetic, natural resource, or recreational purposes. Table 17 lists some of those parcels that have been identified as being of potential interest for particular reasons.

Parcels here include potential trails or greenways, important scenic areas, Connecticut River access points, rare species habitat, possible parks and plazas downtown.

**TABLE 17**

Name	Map-Block-Parcel	Acres	Owner/ Managing Agency	Notes
Abandoned rail line	064-00-001	43.2	Holyoke Water Power Co.	Abandoned rail line along the Connecticut River - useful as potential pedestrian path or bikeway
Peak of Mt. Tom	213-00-001 213-00-004	252.0 total	HG&E	Rare species habitat; beautiful views; M&M Trail; largely forested
Nueva Esperanza	029-05-014	0.108	South City Housing Ltd. Partnership	Proposed plaza
Nueva Esperanza	029-03-002A	1.521	South Canal Ltd. Partnership	Proposed community garden & play space
Old trolley line	219-00-043 183-00-016	5.63	L. Pellissier, III	Former trolley line between Holyoke and Westfield -- potential trail or bikeway
Pump station	001-01-003	0.736	City – Parks & Recreation	Potential river access across RR tracks at west end of Pulaski Park; should be considered for addition to park
Skate Park	TBD	TBD	TBD	Location of possible downtown skate park, as reflected by community visioning and survey results.
W. McAndrews	145-00-004	22.46	Alice Cruz	Rare species habitat
WHYN Radio Towers	188-00-006	76.88	Clear Channel Radio, Inc.	Rare species habitat, Barnes Aquifer
Robert Gourde	194-00-002	45.5	Robert Gourde	Rare species habitat, secondary aquifer recharge, M&M Trail
Amanda Way	223-00-017A 223-00-017B 223-00-017C	10.96	Suzie & Randy Shannon (Mitton)	Connecticut River access, rare species habitat. Currently subdivided for single-family houses,

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## **Parcels of High Priority for Recreational or Conservation**

### **Purposes**

Because there are so many privately owned parcels listed in the tables above, this section lists the privately owned, unprotected parcels which are particularly important for recreational or conservation purposes. A privately owned parcel is deemed high priority if it has at least three of the characteristics listed below:

- Watershed for City reservoir;
- Rare and endangered species habitat;
- Contiguous to already-protected parcels;
- Existing recreational facilities, such as hiking trails, golf courses, or ski areas;
- Access to the Connecticut River;
- Agricultural value; or
- Highly scenic views to or from the parcel.

Other unprotected parcels may well be as important for specific purposes, such as Connecticut River access or rare species protection, but for overall planning purposes, the parcels below should be considered high priorities for future protection efforts. For example, none of the high-priority parcels have access to the Connecticut River, yet clearly the City needs better access to the river.

Note that, especially for larger parcels, only part of the parcel may be particularly important as defined here. Future protection efforts should focus on only that part of the parcel. A good example is the future Holyoke Crossroads Industrial Park. Approximately the western third is reservoir watershed, rare species habitat, and contiguous with City-owned watershed land. While the eastern two-thirds will be developed into a light industrial park, the western third will be conveyed to the Holyoke Water Department, to protect Ashley Reservoir. Refer to the maps elsewhere in this plan to see if a parcel is important as a whole, or only in part. However, a number of the parcels listed here are not listed elsewhere in the plan, yet are clearly important for protection efforts. *Map 25* showing the open space and recreation re-

sources in Holyoke that are protected and unprotected, as well as *Map 26* showing the priority parcels for protection illustrate the great amount of land already protected along the spine of the City, as well as those parcels that are missing.

Parcels, which by themselves would not qualify for this list, are included here if they are under the same ownership as and contiguous to parcels which are high priority.

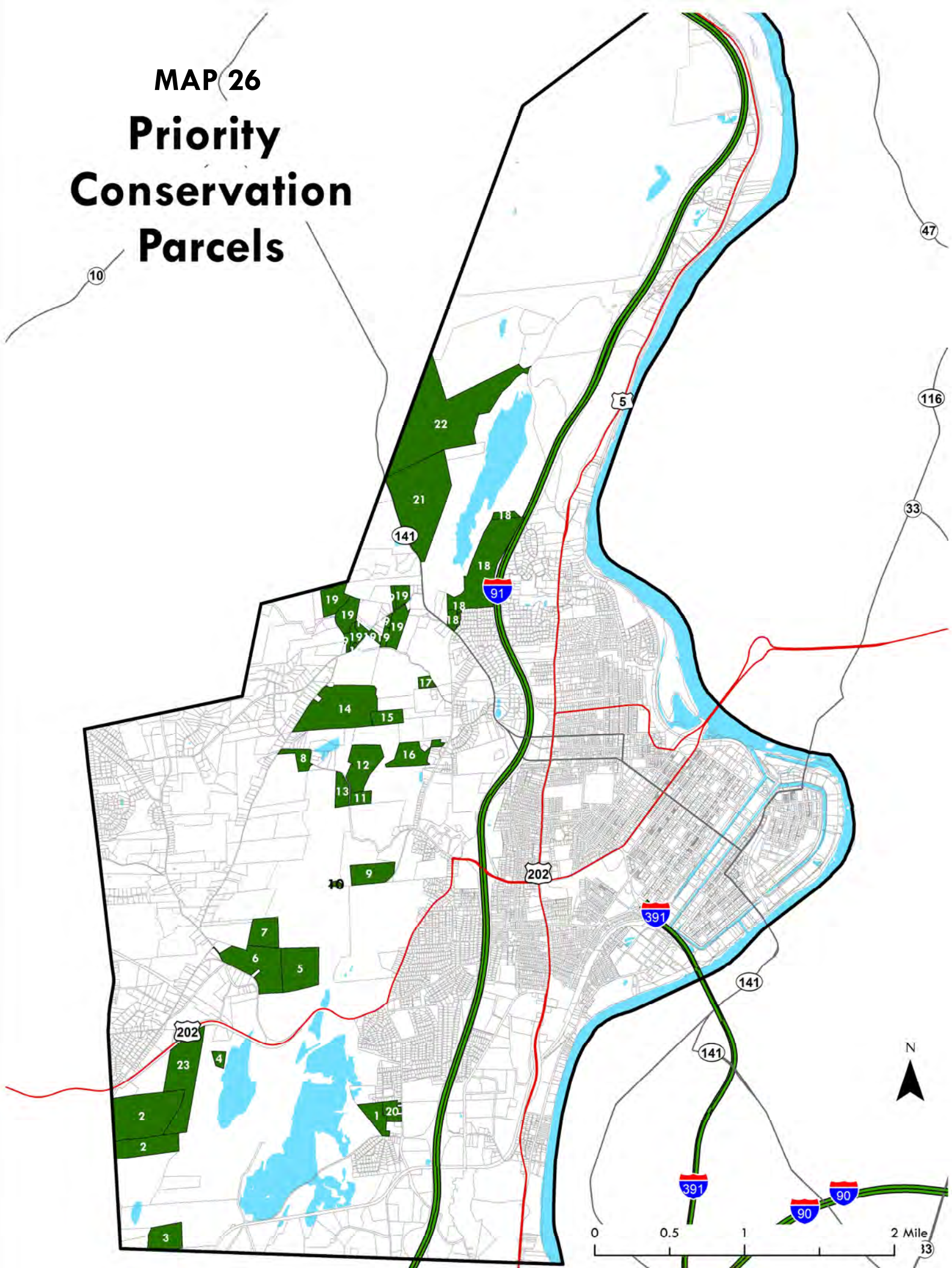
When mapped (see *Map 26*), these high priority parcels form two large blocks of protected or high-priority land, one along the Mt. Tom range south of the Reservation, and one along East Mountain north of Ashley Reservoir. The parcels in between, along Rt. 141, Jarvis Avenue and Southampton Road, do not meet the criteria for high priority; however, they would provide the link between East Mountain and Mt. Tom if parcels on those ranges were someday protected. In fact, what *Map 26* shows is the strong possibility of a spine of protected lands running from north to south completely across Holyoke, where parcels along Rt. 141, Jarvis Avenue and Southampton Road would be the link between north and south. Thus, these unlisted parcels are indeed very important, if an unfragmented and protected mountain range is desired. See *Section 7, Analysis of Needs*, for further discussion of all of these parcels.



**TABLE 18**

RANK	Owner/ Managing Agency	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Watershed	Rare Spe- cies	Contiguous	Existing Rec.	Conn. River Access	Scenic Value	Agric.
1	Holyoke Lodge of Elks	173-00-027	14.9	X	X	X	X			
2	Henry & Muriel Fini	178-00-001 179-00-003	30.0 73.3		X	X	X			X
3	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	178-00-004	22.0		X	X	X			
4	Daniel O'Connell et al.	180-00-002	5.19	X	X	X				
5	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	186-00-008	44.0	X	X	X	X			
6	Johnson, Lenice L.	186-00-009	79.22	X	X	X			X	
7	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	191-00-003	20.0	X	X	X				
8	Donna Carpenter	202-00-026	10.77		X	X			X	X
9	Timothy Mahoney	193-00-005	25.0	X	X	X				
10	Holyoke Street Railway	192-00-001	2.38	X	X	X				
11	Holyoke Revolver Club	200-00-001	35.5		X	X	X			
12		200-00-002		X						
13		200-00-003			X					
14	John & Genevieve Mulcahy	206-00-035	79.0	X	X	X	X			X
15	Daniel O'Connell's Sons, Inc.	207-00-003	20.0	X	X	X				
16	Jesse & Melissa Vanek	145-00-004	21.56	X	X	X			X	
17	Lynch Estate	144-00-001	10			X			X	
18	Wyckoff Country Club	139-00-003 139-00-030 141-00-002 141-00-003 141-00-007 213-00-006A	92.75	X	X	X	X			
19	Carl Family Land	208-00-001 208-00-002 208-00-004 208-00-004.1 208-00-005 208-00-011 208-00-015 208-00-017 210-00-002 211-00-008 211-00-009 211-00-013 223-00-006	80.33	X	X	X	X		X	X
20	Seidel Family Orchards	174-00-003	9.5	X						X
21	Holyoke Gas & Electric	213-00-001 213-00-004	252.0	X	X	X	X		X	
22										
23	John S. Lane & Son, Inc.	181-00-156	64.9		X	X	X			X
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1072.63</b>							

# MAP 26 Priority Conservation Parcels



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## **Publicly-owned Conservation and Recreation Parcels**

### **City-owned Parks and Recreation Areas**

Table 20 includes all the traditional City parks and cemeteries as well as Holyoke's Public Schools' playgrounds and playing fields. It does not include parcels owned by the Holyoke Conservation Commission, Housing Authority or the Holyoke Water Department, as different laws and regulations apply to properties owned by those governmental bodies.

The types of properties currently maintained include:

- 51 - Traditional active or passive use parks
- 6 - Traffic Islands or Memorials
- 2 - Cemeteries
- 11 - School related properties
- 1—Boat House

These properties encompass approximately 270 acres of maintained parkland and provide approximately 175 distinct recreation opportunities.

The 51 traditional park properties were inspected in the winter of 2012 using a consistent evaluation tool (see *Appendix D*) by members of the Parks and Recreation Department. The observations made in a park were made about each different element of the park. Those specific elements in a park were rated as good, fair and poor depending upon the severity of the concern and the issues impact on safety, functionality and appearance. The rating system did not generalize the conditions of the total park but instead identified the elements within the park as being in good, fair or poor condition. This means that some sites received a rating of good and fair or good, fair and poor regarding the different elements in the park. Of the 51 sites listed in *Table 20* only 10 sites had some elements that received a rating of poor, 16 sites had elements rated as fair, 38 sites had elements that received a rating of good, 2 were ranked as excellent and in 19 sites all elements in the park received a rating of good with no other con-

cerns identified.

In addition to assessing the general quality of the City's parks, Parks Department officials also looked at each park for the purpose of evaluating Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliance. This ADA survey will provide a baseline assessment for the 2012 OSRP that was not present or available in earlier drafts. Upgrades identified in this ADA assessment will be used to select upgrades that will need to be made in order to provide a more full recreational experience for those citizens in Holyoke with differing abilities.

The feedback to the Parks and Recreation Department through this site surveys process provided very important information in assessing the current conditions of the parks. Some of the concerns and issues raised were addressed that year while others were incorporated into the section of conditions as well as into the *Five-Year Action Plan*.



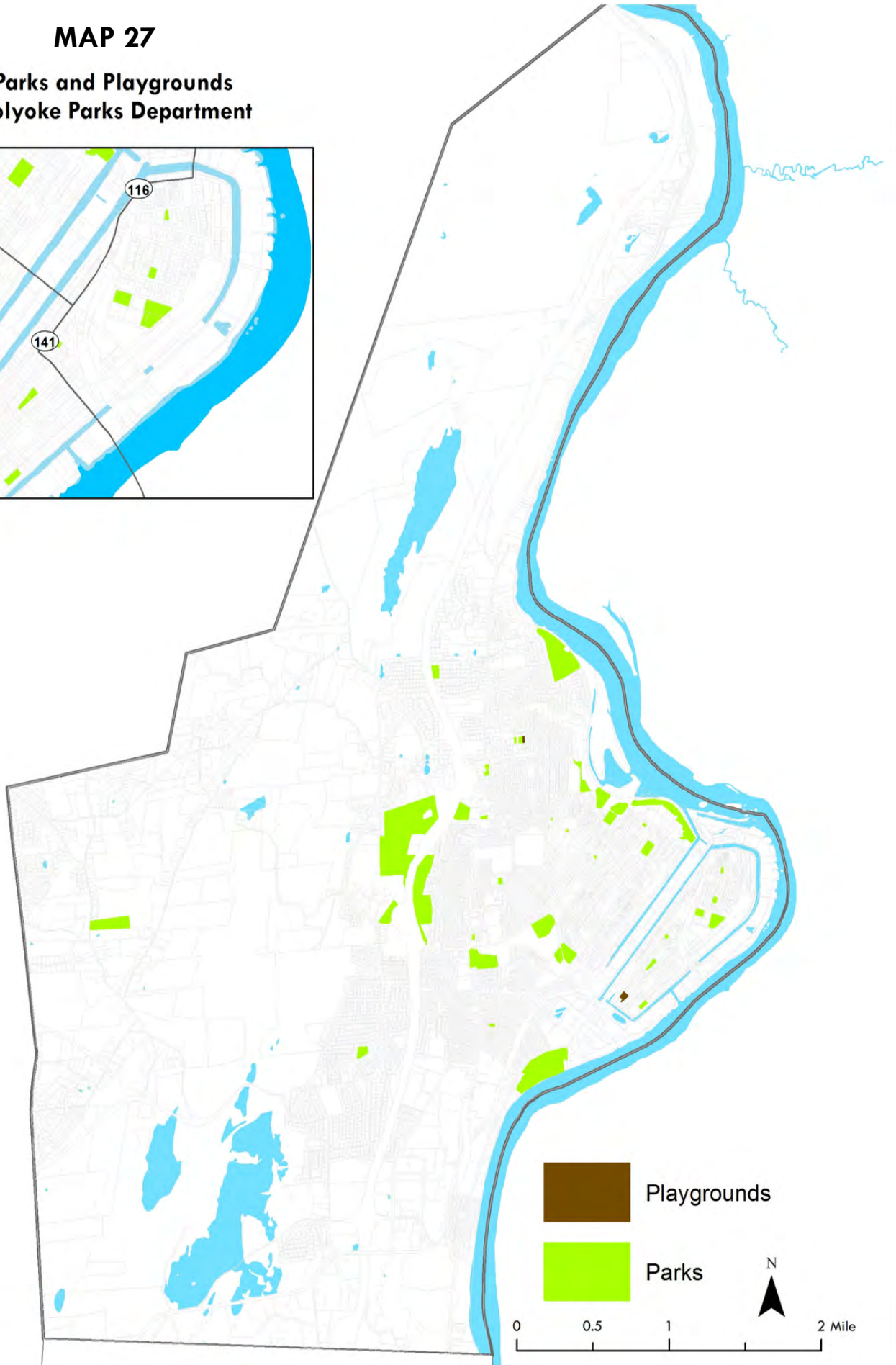
# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

**Table 19 - Holyoke's Recreation Properties, a Snapshot**

• 1 Artificial Turf multi-purpose field with an 8 lane NCAA track and Stadium seating for 3,000 spectators	
• 24 baseball and softball fields	
15 - 60'diamonds	
4 - 75' diamonds	
5 - 90'diamonds	
• 21 multi-purpose fields	
4 - full size soccer or football fields	
8 - mid size soccer fields	
8 - small size soccer fields	
• 20 basketball courts	<p><b>See Map 27 on the following page for a map that quickly summarizes the location of each of these parks.</b></p>
11 full courts	
9 half courts	
• 30 sets of play equipment	
• 21 park settings	
• 8 school settings	
4 volleyball courts	
13 tennis courts	
6 handball courts	
1 swimming pool	
6 spray pads	
3 community garden spaces	
1 bocce court	
• 1 Boat House—Jones Ferry River Access Center	

# MAP 27

## Parks and Playgrounds Holyoke Parks Department



**TABLE 20**

The next table presents a detailed analysis of the each of the city-owned an operated parks, from an equipment and quality perspective. Data obtained from this table will be useful and used to program infrastructure and facility improvements for the next seven years.

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Anne McHugh School Play-ground  City of Holyoke	City/Schools  City/Schools	2.38 acres 060-02-001  DR Open to Public and Seniors 2012	Small play structure installed 1999. The land was turned over to the City in 2010 A new Senior Center is being built. Opening of the facility is scheduled for Fall 2012. There is no playground on the site.	<b>Poor</b> -Play structure needs safety surfacing, perimeter curbing damaged, request benches and tables, redesign space for K-8.	None	Article 97
Anniversary Field  City of Holyoke	City Parks  Parks & Recreation	6.0 acres 129-00-003 R-1A Open to Public	90' Baseball Diamond, benches, fencing (dedicated in 2010 to Dr. Harold Ratchford 60' Practice Diamond - Open field space - youth & adult football / Soccer Sledding Hill Small parking lot, minimal lighting. Porta Potty on site, May - October Signs - Park open/closed, No park signage	<b>Good</b> 90' Diamond & backstop & protective player benches. No bleachers/seating are on site. <b>Fair</b> 60 diamond, practice field, no player benches. Field is very wet into the spring. Minimal lighting is on the field, but not enough for night games/activities. <b>Fair/Poor</b> -Parking area. No lines or signs in place, no designated handicap parking. Some areas have broken pavement. Poor - Area behind 1st base is wooded & full of poison ivy. <b>Accessibility</b> - none, playing Field is not ADA	None	Article 97
Avery Field  City of Holyoke	Holyoke Youth Baseball/Girls Softball League  Holyoke Block Party  Parks & Recreation	2.42 acres 062-05-013 RM-40 Open to Public	60'Baseball Diamond 2 half basketball courts Playground Equipment Signs - park open/closed, no park signage	<b>Fair/Poor</b> - This park is in poor condition. Playground equipment is old, & needs to be re-placed. After the 10/11 storm, the park was used to store tree debris. It has since been re-seeded. <b>Poor</b> - the playground has suffered from use, (installed in 1989) and vandalism. Needs to be remove. <b>Good</b> - New entrance gates were installed in 2012 (This park is targeted for renovation in 2013 or 2014). <b>Access</b> -No Parking, no walkways	None	Article 97



Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Bonin Field (formerly Germania)  City of Holyoke	Holyoke Youth Baseball April - July  Parks & Recreation	1.56 acres 026-02-001 026-02-002 IG, RM-60 Open to Public	(1) 60' diamond with player benches and protective fencing. Sitting area with 10 benches	<b>Good</b> - 60' diamond  <b>Fair</b> - Benches need repair or replacement, backstop needs to be upgraded, fence along 1st base needs repair. Add bleachers. Street parking only  ADA-none Park Signage-not identified..	UPARR/ CDBG 1977	Perm.
Community Field  Scott Tower  City of Holyoke	Soccer fields, ice skating path, nature trails  Unstructured Public Usage  Parks & Recreation	93.6 acres 146-00-014 146-00-018 145-00-093  R-1A  Community Field Open to Public  Scott Tower Access Road Closed to Public	Warming house, Restrooms, Ice-Skating Path, Waterspray, Open Playing Field, Dog Park, Play structures 3-5, 6-12	Excellent—Community Field, renovated 2012; 100% ADA compliance    <b>Poor</b> - Scott Tower - Picnic tables and pavilions in complete disrepair. Scott Tower itself recently repaired but continues to be the victim of graffiti and vandalism. Area currently unmanageable due to isolation and limited resources. Installation of gates in 2004 has reduced problems such as illegal dumping.	CDBG (Community Field) 1982 1985 1995 1996	Perm.

**Name**      **Users**      **Facilities**      **Condition**      **Grant Funds Used**      **Level Of Protection**

**Ownership**      **Mgmt Agency**      **Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access**

Crosier Field	HHSField Hockey & Soccer	8.53 acres	1- 60" w/ removable benches 1-75' diamond 1-90' diamond with player benches and protective fencing,	1987 1988 2002	Permanent
City of Holyoke	Holyoke Youth Soccer August - November	110-00-010 R-1A	3- bleachers 2- 4-fier 1- 5-fier), 4 tennis courts (1 lit),	<b>Good/Fair-</b> Tennis courts were re-surfaced in 2010. <b>Fair</b> - diamonds and backstops Tennis fence rusted.	
	Adult Softball August & September	Open to Public	Open field space used for 2 soccer fields, and one field hockey, pedestrian benches line Rt.5, tree lined perimeter, limited parking.	<b>Poor</b> - Turf throughout facility is very poor. Bleachers in poor condition. Parking limited to street.	
	Tennis Courts w/lights - Summer		no irrigation	Good-side along the dingle trimmed & new lighting in 2012.	
	Tennis Lessons & Paper Dolls Women's			Porta potty on site April - October	
	90' HHS Baseball April - June			Pet Waste station in Park	
	Mickey Mantle & Sandy Koufax BB June & July Holyoke			Materials were purchased to construct a skating rink on tennis courts. Weather was too warm.	
	60' & 75' Youth BB April - Jul 90'			ADA-No access in	
	Quabin Valley & Full Count BB Leagues			Parking limited	
	June & July Adult Rugby				
	<i>Parks &amp; Recreation</i>				
Dean Technical High School Playing Fields	Students and the Public	18.66 acres 116-00-016; 116-00-017; 116-00-018; 116-00-018.1	2 full & 2 half basketball courts (in parking lot), 1 60' diamond, 1 - bleacher, 1 -mid-size soccer field	<b>Good</b> - Soccer/football field area, 60' diamond, backstop.	None
City of Holyoke	<i>Parks &amp; Recreation</i>	BH, RA Open to Public	All illuminated	<b>Fair</b> - Basketball courts need 1 new backboard and goal, asphalt cracked. Fields locked. Bleachers damaged. ADA-None	Article 97

Name		Users	Acreage	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Ownership	DeRoy Park (front of Kelly School)	Elementary School Students and families	1.32 acres	DeRoy - play structure for 5-12 yr olds, sitting area w/13 benches, three need to be removed, non-operational drinking fountain.	<b>Good/Fair</b> – Play structure has been maintained, but should be updated or replaced. benches need repair and paint. Grass is fair.  ADA-Park, play structure accessible	None	Article 97
	City of Holyoke	Holyoke Public Schools	035-03-012 RM-60 Open to Public				
City of Holyoke	Donahue School Playground and Bennett Playing Fields School Playground	175'Diamond Holyoke Youth Baseball Holyoke Youth Soccer August - Sept Paper city Soccer April - June John Boyle Soccer April - June  Parks & Recreation	14.0 acres 174-00-014 R-1A  Open to Public	One 75'diamond with player benches and protective fence,  2 soccer fields (one medium size one full size)  Play structure for 5-12 yr olds in school court yard  Porta-potty on site April-Oct.  Signs for school, not field.	<b>Good</b> - 75' diamond & backstop but poorly located for efficient use of field for other sports.  <b>Fair</b> - Turf surface bumpy; benches need painting, play structure missing several elements such as wall barriers and climbers.  <b>Poor</b> - Basketball goals were removed leaving the backstop with no role, add player benches and bleachers. Space needs to be re-evaluated and redesigned.  ADA-Paved walkway, no access to diamond.	CDBG 1995 2004	Article 97
	Dwight & Pleasant Sts. Ornamental Plantings City of Holyoke	Passive use, visual appreciation  Parks & Recreation	.51 acres .03 acres 105-00-073 091-00-132 BH Open to Public	Ornamental plantings & urn	<b>Fair</b> - Urn needs repainting; pedestrian needs repair and repainting. Recommend site to Adopt-an-Island Program.  ADA-No Access	None	Article 97



Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Ely Court City of Holyoke	Basketball Court Parks & Recreation	0.23 acres 037-06-001 RM+60 Open to Public	One fenced in basketball court and spectator benches  Bell/monument surrounded by benches.	<b>Fair/Poor</b> - Court surface cracks repair done 2004. Benches need repair, <b>Poor</b> - Fence bent and rusty. Rec- ommend removing nonfunctioning light poles.  ADA-access to monument only	UPARR 1980	Permanent
Ely Pedestrian Mall City of Holyoke	Passive Recreation Walking  Parks & Recreation	0.22 acres 033-01-003 RM-60 Open to Public	Sitting area with bell monument and benches	<b>Fair</b> - some benches need repair, monument and rocks need graffiti removal, poor grass cover  <b>Fair</b> —lighting needs to be im- proved  ADA-none.	CDBG	Permanent
E.N. White School Play- ground and Playing Fields City of Holyoke	60' Girls Softball April - July Holyoke Youth Soccer August - November  Parks & Recreation (field)  Public Schools (playground equipment)	7.6 acres 100-00-016 R-1 Open to Public	One 60' diamond with player benches & protective fencing, play structure, 2 swings, drop shot hoop 2 Basketball hoops Port-a-potty Pet Waste Station	<b>Good</b> -60' skin diamond, drainage issues in spring.  <b>Fair</b> -backstop fabric bending to use, fence line in need of repair, benches need repair. Erosion issues along back of back- stop by play structure. Field has drainage issues-wet in spring. New signs installed in 2011 - regarding dogs.  10/29/11 Storm damage - trees pet waste station on site. ADA-No access.	None	Article 97

Name	Users	Acreage	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Ownership	Mgmt Agency	Parcel Zoning Public Access				
Fairfield Ave. Median Strip City of Holyoke	N/A	N/A	Historic tree belt	<b>Good</b>	None	Article 97
Gloutak Park City of Holyoke	Baseball, Holyoke Youth League Parks & Recreation	10.0 acres 195-00-016 RA Open to Public	One 60' diamond with player benches and protective fence, play structure for 3-5, swings, 1 small soccer field	<b>Good</b> - 60' diamond & backstop, Play structure for 3-5 yr olds & swings installed 1999. <b>Fair</b> - Parking area and retaining wall. Access-not existent Storm damage	None	Article 97
Gramps Park City of Holyoke	Passive use, landscaping, wishing well. Parks & Recreation	0.099 acres 006-04-005 RM-40 Open to Public	Benches, wishing well, Plantings,	<b>Good</b> - grass thin in shade areas, gravel gets kicked about. ADA-street parking only	None	Article 97

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Hamilton Park (Carlos Vega Park as of 2011) City of Holyoke	Passive, families Parks & Recreation	0.88 acres 028-02-001 028-02-002 IG Open to Public	Shaded sitting area with 27 benches, Spray pad, walk- ways, open green space. Butterfly patch Honorary memorial tree New signage	<b>Good</b> - benches & tables, spray pad, graffiti on going concern. Add trees & benches to perimeter of park at spray pad end. Street parking only. <b>Poor</b> -Spray pad is cracking, plumb- ing issues. ADA-Walkway, sidewalks uneven	UPARR CDBG- Spray in 2000	Permanent
Ingleside Playground City of Holyoke	Families and Children Parks & Recreation	1.01 acres 117-00-055 RA Open to Public	Play structure for 3-5 yr old, swings, street parking only No signage	<b>Good/Fair</b> - Play structure for 3-5 yr olds installed 1999, set of swings. <b>Poor</b> - Stone steps leading from Main Street to park. Fence along top. Add one bench. ADA-not existent.	None	Article 97
Jim Jackson Courts (formerly Ward 11 Park ) City of Holyoke	Active Recreation, families and teens Parks & Recreation	0.87 acres 027-01-003 BH Open to Public	Two basketball courts, two handball courts, benches, Sand volleyball court removed in 2010, Edible seating area installed with two new benches in 2011 Arbor day tree. No park signage.	<b>Good/Fair</b> - Courts were re-sealed in 2010 Volleyball sand pits were removed in 2010. Graffiti and trash are an ongoing problem. <b>Fair</b> -grassy area is very dry and sandy. ADA-entrance is accessible, no ac- cess to open space or seating area.	CDBG 1975 1976 1977 1994	Permanent



Name		Users	Acreage	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Ownership		Mgmt Agency	Parcel Zoning	Public Access			
Highland Dingle City of Holyoke	Passive recreation DPW	5.6 acres 095-00-079 R-1 No formal public access policy	Wooded conservation area with a stream at the base and steep slopes	<b>Good</b> – minimal illegal dumping, some trails used by youth.	N/A	Article 97	
High School Annex City of Holyoke	Overflow parking for Roberts Sports Complex DPW	5.6 acres 63-03-001 RM-60 Open to the Public	Vacant Lot/Grass, Pavement	<b>Good</b> - currently used as overflow parking area for Roberts sports complex.	N/A	Article 97	
Jones Ferry River Access Center City of Holyoke	Holyoke Rows - under contract as site Operator; high school, adaptive, team, recreational. Holyoke Rows	1.38 acres 117-00-144 RA Public Boat Launch Boathouse Classes and programs open to public	Boathouse, classrooms, showers, boat launch, boat dock	<b>Excellent</b> - Boathouse built in 2009 & opened in 2010. Contracted to Holyoke Rows for programming. Ramp was renovated in 2010.  ADA-boathouse accessible, ramp is slightly improved, full ADA up-grade for ramp would benefit.	USHG/ CDBG CDBG LWCC	Permanent	

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Jones Point Park City of Holyoke	75' HY Baseball April - June HY Soccer August - November Holyoke Catholic High Tennis Courts April - June Parks & Recreation	24.5 acres 097-00-012 R-1 Open to the Public	(1) 75' diamond with player benches and protective fence, one basketball court, 4 tennis courts, one soccer field, benches, play structure and swings Adopt-an-island in playground area Recycle bins onsite Fencing replaced in 2012 Port-a-potty Pet waste station No park signage	<b>Good/Fair</b> - Fenced in area with play structure & swings for 3-5yr olds installed 1999 should be re- placed, Tennis courts resurfaced and crakes filled 2004, some drainage problems still exist around tennis courts. New Fencing installed 2012.  <b>Fair</b> - Basketball & tennis courts need to be resurfaced. Some drain- age issues. Good- Diamond, fencing, benches  Parking area limited - consider ex- panding Doggie Doo Station on site. Port-a-potty on site from April - October. ADA-not existent.	None	Article 97
Kennedy Park formerly Highland School Active Neighborhood volunteer group for teenagers KPOW City of Holyoke	60' HY Baseball & Girls Softball April - July Cheerleading Practice HY Football August - November HY Soccer August - No- vember Activity Leaders on site July & August Parks & Recreation	2.18 acres 092-00-012 R-2 Open to the Public	5-12 Play structure, swings, benches, lit flag pole, (1) 60' diamond with player bench and protective fence, open space used for small soc- cer field, irrigation  Pet waste station Port-a-potty 12 & under sign No park signage	<b>Good /Fair</b> - Constructed 2001 with all new elements. 1 rrigation and flag pole lighting installed. Vandalism & graffiti on-going problem.  3 Porta-potties burned in Summer 2011.  Poor-extraordinary amount of van- dalism and graffiti  ADA-Walkways and playground equipment accessible, no access to playing field	USHG/ CDBG 1999 2000 2002	Permanent

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Kennedy Memorial City of Holyoke	Passive recreation. Parks & Recreation	0.05 acres 076-08-001 RM-20 Open to Public	Monument	<b>Good</b> - Monument relocated and repaired 2004. Park to be maintained by the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee & St. Jerome Church.	CDBG 2002	Article 97
Kenney Field City of Holyoke	HY Baseball - backup field May - July Adult Kickball League May - September Parks & Recreation	1.6 acres 139-00-050 R-1 Open to Public	One 60'diamond with player benches and protective fence, 1 small soccer field, play structure, swings Pet waste station	<b>Good</b> - Play structures for 3-5 yr olds installed 1999.  <b>Fair</b> - Field often to wet for base- ball season, fence overgrown & needs repair, Park entrance ways need improvement, Parking limited and poor ADA access	None	Article 97
Kosciuszko Park City of Holyoke	Passive recreation Parks & Recreation	0.54 acres 015-02-001a BC, RM-40 Open to Public	Sitting area, Monuments, Park signage, On-street parking.	<b>Good</b> - Attractive, amenities in good condition Sign replaced in 2009. Two new spruce trees 2012.  <b>Fair</b> -grass and vegetation, severe 2012 storm damage.  ADA-park accessible, once entered, no access into park.	CDBG 1984	Permanent



Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Laurel Park City of Holyoke	Passive recreation Parks & Recreation	0.29 acres 113-00-049 113-00-050 R-2 Open to Public	4 Benches, fountain, Plantings, No park signage On-street parking only	<b>Good</b> - Passive use park with walkway, Fountain operational, Plantings attended to by a volunteer. 10/11 Storm Damage. Fountain not operational, drain needs repair.  ADA-walkways, access to park, sidewalks partially uneven.	None	Article 97
Lawrence School Playground City of Holyoke	Families, toddlers and teens. School Department	0.26 acres 010-07-001 RM-60 Open to Public	Two half-basketball courts, 1 handball court, benches, trees, large play structure for 5-12 yr olds installed 1996. On street parking only. Picnic tables.	<b>Good</b> - play structure, basketball courts, trees & handball court.  <b>Fair</b> - Paved area cracked, graffiti on going issue  ADA-Playground 100% accessible	CDBG/ LWCF 1980 1990 1996	Permanent
Lincoln & Northampton Sts. Ornamental Plantings City of Holyoke	Passive recreation Parks & Recreation	0.97 acres 104-00-008 104-00-062 104-00-063 R-2 Open to Public	Ornamental plantings - large trees and mown lawn	<b>Good</b> - Currently ornamental plantings maintained through Adopt an Island Program.  ADA-none	None	Article 97

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Mackenzie Stadium / John Young Softball Diamond	90'HHS Baseball April & May Dean Tech Baseball Elms College Baseball March - May & Fall	8.50 acres 059-00-048 R-1A Open to Public	One 90' lighted diamond (Jim Athas Field) Restrooms, storage shed, score board, press box with concession area. New protective netting installed 2012  Seating for 2,000 Field house with locker rooms leased separately to Holyoke Youth Baseball  One 60' lighted diamond with player benches and protective fencing. Scoreboard, 3 sets of bleachers (2-5 tier 1-15 tier), bathrooms, irrigation  Basketball Courts removed/demolished in 2010.  John Young Softball Diamond renovated in 2009  New player benches installed in 2010.	<b>Good</b> - Facility received some repairs in 2004 and is improved but additional work is needed. 90' diamond needs an overhaul.  <b>Fair</b> -Field lacks attractive public gateway. Stadium needs some concrete repair and ADA access; Field needs to be leveled to address drainage issues. Two light poles still need to be converted to updated lighting, Facility lacks a sound system. Bullpen area needs benches. Dugouts should be rebuilt to eliminate step down. Poor - Brickwork on walls and steps by Beech St entrance. Field House needs work on roof, windows.  <b>Good</b> - Fencing, backstop and irrigation are in good shape. Basketball courts removed and area seeded.  Fair - Field needs significant re-leveling to address major drainage issue. Basketball courts were constructed at Roberts to replace these. The goals were removed so the next step is to remove the asphalt. Replace bigger bleacher.	UPARR/ 1976 1980 1988 1991 CDBG 1998	Permanent
City of Holyoke	Tri-County Baseball May - August Holyoke Blue Sox June - August Sandy Koufax October Western MA Wooden Bat League August & September Valley Wheel Over 30 Baseball August Parks & Recreation					

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Joe Mayer Field  City of Holyoke	60 HY Baseball April - July  Parks & Recreation	2.12 acres 159-00-046  R-1A  Open to Public	One 60' diamond with player benches & protective fencing, 5-tier bleachers, benches on hillside, new fence, new gate in 2007, one playground slide, no park signage, port-a-potty may-July.	<b>Good</b> - 60' diamond & backstop in good condition. New Fencing installed 2007.  <b>Fair</b> - Turf surface uneven, hill- side benches & stairs need repair, create ADA access to park & a parking area. Request trees.  <b>Poor</b> - play structure need was partially removed. Needs repair or total removal.  ADA-none, Parking-none	None	Article 97
McMahon School Playing Fields  City of Holyoke	60' Girls Softball April - Instructional Softball - makeshift diamond July HY Soccer Parks & Recreation (fields)  City School Department (playscape and basketball)	11.9 acres 164-00-001  R-1A  Open to Public	One 60' diamond with protective fencing, 1 soccer field, 1 basketball half court, 2 set of bleachers (5-tier), school playground structure and paved play area	<b>Good</b> - 60' diamond and backstop, turf quality good with some wear in soccer area, new perimeter fence 2004. New player benches installed 2010.  <b>Fair</b> - Bleachers need repair, paved play area cracked, basketball goal and backboard are worn and old, no lines for the court.  ADA-no access to playing field, play structure is accessible.	CDBG 1977 1978 1979 1988	Article 97
McNally Field (behind Kelly School)  City of Holyoke	60' Skin Softball Diamond Men's softball April - October Boys & Girls Club, Neary Jump Start, Myriam Miranda  Parks & Recreation (Field)  City School Department (Court)	4.361 acres 035-03-001 035-03-002 035-03-003 035-03-004  RM-60  Open to Public	One 60' lighted diamond with player benches and player protective fence, one lighted basketball court, 1 5-tier bleacher, paved play area, Bathroom and storage bldg. No park signage.	<b>Good</b> - 60' skin diamond renovated, new bathroom & storage shed built, Crack repair to basketball court & the perimeter fence replaced in 2004. Sprinkler head accessed to wet infield. 2004.  <b>Fair</b> - Basketball court looks worn, recommend goals backboards & fence be replaced. Turf surface uneven, paved play area has cracks.  Poor - need new player benches, need more bleachers.  ADA-no access.	UPARR 1982 CDBG 2003	Permanent



Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
McNulty Park City of Holyoke	Passive neighborhood park Parks & Recreation	2.23 acres 073-00-036 073-00-037 073-00-038 R-2 Open to Public	Overlook and benches, swings, slide, parking lot, no park signage	<b>Good</b> - The Kiwanis Club has adopted park. Every year benches get painted/ repaired and all graffiti is removed. Nancy Howard has adopted a garden around flagpole. Parking area needs pavement& new curbing. Overlooks obscured by trees and brush. 10/12/11 Storm damage to trees  <b>Poor</b> - swings & slide need safety surfacing, needs new parking pavement and curbing, overlook obscured by trees and brush, severe storm damage.  ADA-Parking, needs to be resurface, no access to park.	None	Article 97
Mitchell Field City of Holyoke	90' Baseball Diamond Holyoke Catholic Baseball April & May Sandy Kofax & Mickey Mantle Baseball June & July Full Count Baseball (Adult) June & July Fall JV Baseball September & October Parks & Recreation	3.3 acres 062-04-001 R-1 Open to Public	One 90' diamond with player benches & protective fence, no park signage, on-street parking only	<b>Good</b> - 90' ball field Player benches will be replaced in 2012. Backstop repaired in 2011. Fence lines repaired in 2011.  ADA-none	None	Article 97
Morgan Street Park City of Holyoke	Neighborhood residents, passive recreation Parks & Recreation	0.63 acres 029-06-001 RM-60 Open to Public	Swings, sitting area, paved area, on-street parking, no park signage	<b>Poor</b> - Swings need safety surface underneath, benches need repair & repainting, there is no pedestrian gate access to park only a truck gate.  ADA-none	CDBG 1982	Article 97

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Peasants Park City of Holyoke	Passive Parks & Recreation	0.12 acres 061-02-015 BG Open to Public	Sitting area with memorial, with benches, on-street parking and no park signage	<b>Good</b> - Small passive use park with brick patio, ADA access  Fair- hillside behind benches thinly grassed, plantings need attention recommend to adopt an island pro- gram.  ADA-accessible	CDBG 1989	Permanent
Pina Park City of Holyoke	Neighborhood park for residents and young children Parks & Recreation	0.5 acres 034-02-004 RM-60 Open to Public	Spray pool, play structure for 5-12 yr old, 2 benches, 4 swings, two lit flag poles, new perimeter fence.  Community Garden borders the park.  On-street parking  No park signage	<b>Good</b> - Community effort and city investment has improved this park over the last decade. Most ameni- ties are in good shape. Graffiti and vandalism continue to be a concern. Water Spray not enough pressure & needs Repair Resident Julia Rivera, fabulous park Stewart!  ADA-Park entrance is accessible	UPARR/ CDBG 1977 1979 1998 2001	Permanent
Roland Pouliot Pool City of Holyoke	Public Pool - open July & August. Daily atten- dance ranges from 150 - 450. Only public facility in the City. Rented, too, to, Boys & Girls Club, salvation Army & as- sorted summer pro- grams. Parks & Recreation	1.74 acres 058-00-019.1 BG Open to Public	Large swimming pool, wading pool, maintenance shed, build- ing containing office, locker rooms, fenced-in area with waiting room, pool signage.	<b>Good</b> - extensive repairs to pool and pumps and facilities fully painted in 2004 & 2010 Vegetation along Resnic Blvd. cleared once per year.  Poor-Perimeter fence very rusty. Bottom of pool needs repair, unau- thorized use by skateboarders, light poles are rusty.  ADA-2013 federal law requires access.	CDBG 1983	Article 97

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Pulaski Park City of Holyoke	Neighborhood park, Mater Dolorosa School, Boys and Girls Club, Salvation Army  Parks & Recreation	11.636 acres 014-01-003 007-01-003 015-01-005 015-01-006 R-1 Open to Public	New Water spray installed at site of former Feldman Pool in 2010.  Playground, benches & amenities installed in 2011. Volleyball court, one basketball court, walkways and 49 benches, scenic overlooks, fenced in flag pole and monument area, 1 chess table, 1 bocce court Community Development Block Grant Money received to renovate parking lot & basketball courts in 2011.  Two porta-potties are in place from June - August.  No park signage	<b>Good-</b> Overlook areas, embankment walls and walkways repaired '03-'04. Many benches were repainted with volunteer labor '04 - 2010.  View of river is blocked by trees vegetation. Privately owned property. Replace fence along RR. Recommend removing climber at north end.  Tennis Courts were removed in 2008.  Old climber at north end of the park removed in 2010. Storage shed and restroom buildings not in operation demolished in 2010.  Poor-no safety surfacing, old tennis courts lights need to be removed.  Access-Excellent at new playground/waterspray. Sidewalks are uneven.	CDBG/ LWCF 1975 1980 1997 2001 2004 2009 2010 2011	Permanent
Roberts Sports Complex City of Holyoke	HHS & Dean Football, track, Rentals  W. MA Pioneers, W. United, W MA Flag Football, W. MA Div. Track, Field Hockey, MA State Warriors, Amoral Soccer, Bay State Games, HY Football, Adult Touch Football, Western United Soccer, MAA Football, Center School, Special Olympics, Holyoke Catholic Track  School Department	22.15 acres 059-00-015 R-1A	One lighted artificial turf field lined for soccer football and field hockey, Stadium seating for 3,000, Morneau Courts -  Two handball courts, 5 tennis courts, 2 basketball courts w/lights 1 volleyball court, 1997. 8-lane NCAA track, field event venues, press box, Concession stand, bathrooms, field house, ticket booths	<b>Good</b> - Artificial turf and track installed 2001. Concession stand constructed 2002. Stadium repainted and fencing added to enclose facility in 2004. Turf will need replacement in 5-7 years. Lights replaced in 2011. Sod was laid in 2010 to address walkway erosion Track suffers from poor drainage. Add truck gate to tennis court, light tennis courts, address erosion on steep hillsides, concrete repair to stadium, Brush removal on right side of stadium Erosion problem address/renovated on hill by basketball court 2011.  ADA-none, not adequate.	CDBG 1992 1993 1994- tennis 2000 LWCF 2002 2002 CDBG 2010 CDBG	Permanent



Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Rohan Park City of Holyoke	Neighborhood park. Parks & Recreation	1.38 acres 108-00-024 R-2 Open to Public	5-12 and 3-5 Play Structures, swings, picnic tables, benches, walkway and plantings. Port-a-Potty on site July & August No signage	<b>Good</b> - Equipment 2002 in good shape, Plantings and Park have been maintained through volunteer efforts. Tree Damage from 10/11 storm.  ADA-100% compliant.	CDBG 1999 2000 2001	Article 97
Rock Valley Cemetery City of Holyoke	Parks & Recreation	0.5 acres 195-00-014 R-A Open to Public	Cemetery	<b>Good</b> - Closed to new internments unless burial site already identified Volunteer, Earl Brick has maintained & cared for the site for many, many years.  ADA-none.	None	Article 97
Roosevelt Square City of Holyoke	Small traffic island. Parks & Recreation	N/A	Monument	<b>Good</b> - Small traffic island with Arborvitae bushes and Monument Flagpole was re-painted in 2010 Arborvitae were trimmed back around monument in 2001. Sign was restored by a volunteer in 2011	None	Article 97

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Sheard Park City of Holyoke	Passive recreation. Parks & Recreation	9.1 acres 009-07-001 DR Open to Public	8 Benches, walkways, lit flag pole, Trees, no signage.	<b>Good</b> - Passive use park with walk-ways. Add trees <b>Poor</b> - Stairs in one corner need concrete repair. On street parking only ADA-none.	None	Article 97
Smith's Ferry Cemetery City of Holyoke	Parks & Recreation	2.91 acres 226-00-007 RA Open to Public	Cemetery	<b>Good</b> - Closed to new internments without sites. Replace fence, truck gate to access tree work, remove sand dumping	None	Article 97
Soucey Park City of Holyoke	Children and teenager. Parks & Recreation	0.023 acres 030-05-003 BH Open to Public	Swings, play structure for 3-5 yr olds w/ slide, 1 bench, 1 handball court, 1 basketball half-court	<b>Poor</b> - Play structure for 3-5 yr olds installed in 1998 <b>Poor</b> - Handball court needs to be painted due to graffiti, basketball court needs repair of playing surface. Graffiti, vandalism and trash dumping on going concern. No vegetation, needs major upgrades and signage. ADA-none.	CDBG 1998	Permanent

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
South Chestnut Street Park City of Holyoke	Neighborhood park. Parks & Recreation	0.62 acres 004-02-004 DR Open to Public	3-5 & 5-12 Play structures Swings, walkways, open green space No signage	<b>Good</b> - Renovated 2004. Graffiti, vandalism and trash are an on go- ing concern.  Poor-benches and park amenities in poor conditions, grass dry in sports ADA-excellent.	LWCF 1980 CDBG 1994 2002 2003	Permanent
Springdale Park City of Holyoke	90' Sandy Kofax, Full Count Baseball  Dean Tech 75'HY Baseball 60'HY Baseball & Adult softball  HY Soccer & Pioneer Valley Jr. Soccer  La Familia Festival 1 week in July. Activity Leaders on site July & August  Boys & Girls Club Sum- mer Program, July & August. Frequently permitted for special events & birthday Parties  Parks & Recreation	28.22 acres 085-00-062 084-00-001 DR Open to Public	2-60' (1) 75' (1) 90' diamonds with player benches and protective fence,  1 small soccer field, 2 sets of bleachers, benches, 4 picnic tables, 2 volleyball courts, 1 basketball court, 1 hand-ball wall, restrooms, maintenance building, 2 play structures for 3-5 & 5-12 yr olds, 2 water spray pad, & flood control dike with walking path. Flag pole Decorate fencing Second water spray added in 2009 & new fencing. Flag pole installed in 2009. New sign in 2011 Port-a-potties and pet waste facilities	<b>Good</b> - diamonds, play structures, spray pad, basketball court, walk- ways, volleyball. Second waterspray (200&)  <b>Fair</b> - need more picnic tables, some benches need repair, add more bleachers, parking area limited to approx. 25 cars. Tree work needed along southern pe- rimeter. Add trees along perimeter. Re-grade 90' outfield  <b>Poor</b> - Replace Park Bldg. Recommend. 60' Ball Diamond renovated in 2011 & 2012  New Springdale Park Sign installed in 2011. One Porta Potty on site from April - October. Another port-a- potty on site from June - August.  ADA-two water sprays and play- ground, no access to diamonds.	LWCF/ CDBG 1980 CDBG 1984 1995 1994 1996 CDBG /USHG 1997 CDBG 2009	Permanent



Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Sullivan Field City of Holyoke	School playground Holyoke youth leagues Parks & Recreation (Field) School Department (courts)	16.39 acres 147-00-010 RM-20 Open to Public	Playground equipment installed   2006  Port-a-Potty on site May - August  Parking lot on school grounds w/ADA parking  No signage	<b>Fair</b> - Basketball courts need one new backboard and hoop, resur- facing and restriping. Player benches need repair.  ADA-fair, play structures and courts; no access to playing fields	None	Article 97
Sylvia Lane Park City of Holyoke	HY Baseball - backup field May - July Adult Kickball League May - September DPW	4.5 acres 075-01-002 R-1 Open to Public	Shade trees,  Green space,  Flagpole,  Gateway sign City off Route 202 Bridge	<b>Good</b> - ornamental plantings provided through Adopt-an- Island Program	None	Article 97
Valley Arena Park City of Holyoke	Limited usage. Explored as a commu- nity garden location, pending site remediation Parks & Recreation	0.41 acres 029-05-012 DR Open to Public	Half basketball court benches, slide, swings, play structure	<b>Poor</b> -Graffiti and vandalism and trash dumping on going concern. Park has basically been abandon by users. Anticipate a community garden at site.	UPARR/ CDBG 1997	Permanent

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Veteran's Park (formerly Hampden Park) City of Holyoke	Passive use Parks & Recreation	2.7 acres 012-05-001 BC Open to Public	Four Monuments, shaded sitting areas, walkways No signage	In early 2012 the City was awarded 1.4 Million Dollars from the Gateways Cities State Grant. Veteran's Park will be renovated / rejuvenated in Fall of 2012. Will be ADA compliant.	CDBG/ LWCF 1980 CDBG 2010 Gateway Cities Grant 2012	Permanent
Wyatt Harper City of Holyoke	Not used by the Community Parks & Recreation	4.33 acres 049-00-001 049-00-002 RM-20 Difficult to Access	There are no amenities in the park.	<b>Fair/poor</b> - this park experienced sever storm damage in October 2011. The debris has been cleared and the fence repaired in 2012.  ADA-none		Article 97
Library Park Public Library Trustees	Passive use Public Library	2.63 acres 011-11-011 DR Under Renovation Open to Public 2014	Library park is protected by section 6(f)(3) of capital land and water conservation fund act of 1965, as a result of federal funding im- provements in 1986. As federally protected parkland, uses of the park land are subject to review and approval of the national park service. In 2010, the Holyoke Public Library began discussions with the NPS and the Com- monwealth of MA EOEAA (the state LWCF coordinator) to expand the library onto 6(f) protected parkland. After complying with all federal regs, the NPS approved expansion of the public library as a "proposal to construct a public facility". The original project agreement number 25-00330 was amended to approve expansion of the public library.	Under renovation, completion date of 2014.	LWCF	Permanent

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Ingleside Playground City of Holyoke	Families Parks & Recreation	1.01 Acres 117-00-055 RA Open to Public	Play structure for 3-5 yr old, swings. On street parking only No Park Signage	<b>Good/Fair</b> - Play structure for 3-5 yr olds installed 1999, set of swings. <b>Poor</b> - Stone steps leading from Main Street to park. Fence along top. Add one bench ADA - None	None	Article 97
Jim Jackson Courts City of Holyoke	Neighborhood, Families and Students Parks & Recreation	.83 Acres 027-01-003 BH Open to Public	Two basketball courts, Two handball courts, benches (sand volleyball court 2010. 2011, edible seating area/garden installed 2 benches. In April of 2011 tree was planted near edible seating for Arbor Day. Open/closed sign. No park signage. Bronze tablet on boulder is on site	<b>Good/Fair</b> - Courts were re-sealed in 2010. Graffiti & trash are on ongoing problem. <b>Fair</b> - grassy area is very dry & sandy Access- entrance to the park/ basketball court is handicap accessible. No access to grassy area or edible seating area	CDBG 1975 1976 1977 1994	Article 97
Morgan School Playground City of Holyoke	School children School Department	1.1 acre 029-06-06 DR Open to Public	Play structure, benches, drop shot hoop, paved play area, school has signage, no playground signage, on-street parking only.	<b>Good/Fair</b> - renovated in 1999, needs updates ADA-100% accessible.	CDBG	Article 97



Name		Users	Acreage	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Ownership		Mgmt Agency	Parcel Zoning	Public Access			
Korean Veterans' Memorial Plaza City of Holyoke	General Public Use for City Hall and Courthouse Visitors Department of Works		0.28 acres No Parcel BC Open to Public	Sitting area, sculpture, Walkway, Courtyard	<b>Fair</b> — Sculptures in good condition, planting beds overgrown with invasives, trees removed, but never replanted, walkway in need of re-paving, pavers degraded.	CDBG	Article 97 / Permanent
Metcalf School Playground City of Holyoke	Families, students, neighbors Parks & Recreation		1.253 acres 112-00-059 R-2 Open to Public	3 - 5 yr old play structure 4 benches, half basketball court Perimeter fencing. School has signage.	<b>Good</b> - The play area was totally renovated in 2000. <b>Access</b> - The playground is 100% handicap accessible.	CDGB 1985	Article 97
Wistarichurst Museum City of Holyoke	General Public, Educational Groups Historic Commission		2.38 Acres 060-01-001 RM-20 Open to Public General Admission During museum hours	Historic Museum that interprets the Skinner Estate, as it existed during the period of Belle Skinner's occupancy of the estate.	Retaining wall on the Pine Street portion of the property needs to be restored to prevent erosion of lawn and incursions onto the Pine Street right-of-way.	CDBG 1983 1984 1992 1994 1996-2004	Permanent

Name Ownership	Users Mgmt Agency	Acreage Parcel Zoning Public Access	Facilities	Condition	Grant Funds Used	Level Of Protection
Holyoke Canal Walk Phase I City of Holyoke	Pedestrians Cyclists DPW/Friends of the Canal Walk	N/A Public ROW	Linear multi-use path along the canal system; Level 1 Canal between Dwight Street and Appleton Street; to be extended between Appleton Street and Cabot Street.	<b>Excellent:</b> Phase I was constructed in 2010; landscaping needs to be maintained on a more frequent basis.	Federal Earmark MassDOT	Permanent
Holyoke Canal Walk Phase II City of Holyoke	Pedestrians Cyclists DPW/Friends of the Canal Walk	N/A Public ROW	Linear multi-use path along the canal system; Level 1 Canal between behind Front Street	<b>To Be Constructed</b>	MassDOT	Permanent
Holyoke Canal Walk Phase III City of Holyoke	Pedestrians Cyclists DPW/Friends of the Canal Walk	N/A Public ROW	Linear multi-use path along the canal system; Level 2 Canal between Dwight Street and Appleton Street, along Race Street ROW.	<b>Excellent:</b> Phase II will come on-line in 2013-4; subsequent stages will be funded, permitted and constructed through a combination of transportation funding and municipal funding, when necessary.	MassDOT	Permanent
Holyoke Canal Walk Phase IV City of Holyoke	Pedestrians Cyclists DPW/Friends of the Canal Walk	N/A Public ROW	Linear multi-use path along the canal system; Level 2 Canal between Cabot Street and Appleton Street, along Race Street ROW.	<b>To Be Constructed</b>	MassDOT	Permanent

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## **Recreational Parcels Owned by the Holyoke Housing Authority**

In an attempt to meet the needs of residents, the Holyoke Housing Authority provides many different recreation opportunities at its housing developments. The opportunities include play structures, play areas and passive parks. It should be noted that the City attempted to refurbish and renovate Lyman Terrace through multiple rounds of grant applications, but was unable to obtain the funding to bring the property up to code. As such, this site is scheduled to be demolished and all residents are scheduled to be relocated, according to all applicable federal laws and regulations for finding suitable replacement housing and counseling. From a recreational standpoint, the demolition of Lyman Terrace will result in the loss of paved courtyards and a community gardening location.

**TABLE 21**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Map-Block-Parcel</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Public Access</b>	<b>Grant Funds Used</b>	<b>Zoning</b>	<b>Degree of Protection</b>
Beudoin Village	148-00-038 146-00-017	22.45	Ball field, swing set - both in extremely poor condition	Good	None	RM-20	None
Churchill Homes	003-05-027	0.6	Passive park with granite sitting walls, play tables, attractive plantings and green space	Good	HOPE VI	DR	None
Churchill Homes Community Center	003-04-019	.21	Community center	Good	HOPE VI	DR	None
North Summer Street	040-01-004	1.05	Playground equipment	Good	None	DR	None
Toepfert Apartments	042-02-001	0.587	Playground equipment	Good	None	DR	None

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Parcels Owned by the Holyoke Conservation Commission

The Holyoke Conservation Commission owns six parcels with a total of 49.42 acres in the City. Most of these parcels have any significant active recreational potential, as they are all severely constrained by steep slopes or wetlands. However, the Brush Hill (East Mountain) parcel contains a particularly scenic portion of the New England Trail. In order to enhance the recreation potential of this property, the Commission is in the process of constructing an overnight sleeping facility for through-hikers of the NET. This has the potential to generate regionally-significant advantages, as it will address a current shortage of remote overnight camping facilities for users of the NET. In addition to this, the Commission holds several Conservation Restrictions on approximately 95 acres on several parcels owned by C. Kuzeja et al. and J. and A. Block in west Holyoke for the purposes of protecting Easthampton's water supply. The Holyoke Conservation Commission monitors these CRs on an annual basis to ensure that the terms of the CR are being met. The Commission also recently completed the acquisition of a 14-acre parcel on Mountain Road to preserve habitat for rare and endangered vertebrates in Holyoke.

**TABLE 22**

Name Ownership	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage MGMT Agency	Use Zoning	Condition	Nat. Resource / Recreational Potential	Public Access	Degree of Protection
Rear Valley Heights Conservation Commission	072-00-037	1.82 Con Comm	Conservation R-2	Good, some trash	Very little recreational potential due to steep slopes; should be kept heavily wooded to prevent erosion. Encroachment from abutting property owners needs to be addressed. NHESP habitat.	Difficult due to steep slopes.	Permanent
McNulty Park Extension. Conservation Commission	072-00-040	13.23 Con Comm	Conservation R-2	Good, some trash	Potential for access trails for scenic vistas; should be kept heavily wooded to prevent erosion. NHESP habitat.	Difficult due to steep slopes and absence of trails.	Permanent
Gray's Dingle Conservation Commission	159-00-084	2.52 Con Comm	Conservation; informal trail. R-1A	Good, some trash	Former nature trail for McMahon School.  Potential exists to upgrade trail to more formal path, with information.	Good	Permanent
Brush Hill Conservation Commission	177-00-001	14.0 Con Comm	Conservation; NET Trail RA	Excellent	New England Scenic Trail  Opportunity exists for overnight camping facility.	Good. Only accessible to through-hikers of NET	Permanent
Broad Brook, Rock Valley Rd. Conservation Commission	203-00-003	3.75 Con Comm	Conservation RA	Good	Good example of red maple swamp for teaching purposes; should be maintained as is to pro-	Good	Permanent



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Conservation Restrictions held by Holyoke Conservation Commission

The City of Holyoke Conservation Commission holds 121.18 acres in Conservation Restrictions on several parcels in West Holyoke as shown in Table 23.

Parcels 209-00-013 and 209-00-015 are adjacent to protected land in Easthampton and Southampton. The 2005 acquisitions were a cooperative effort between Holyoke, Easthampton, and Southampton with the Valley Land Fund. In 2011, additional acreage was preserved on the Kuzeja Family land to further preserve this portion of the City. The 2011 acquisition resulted in the discontinuance of a portion of Old Bassett Road, which prevents the development of land through the ANR process.

The land lies within Zone III of the Barnes Aquifer Recharge Area. The area is rich in wildlife drawn by the mix of mature soft- and hardwoods, wetlands and streams, and open fields. The properties include both buffer and inholding areas for other conservation lands, and are critical to the ecological integrity of those lands. Protection of this land facilitated future connections between the New England Scenic Trail and the surrounding conservation lands, and potential links between the Trail and developed neighborhoods to the west. Finally, because of its undisturbed mix pastoral and forest landscapes, the area, while isolated, constitutes a scenic resource of considerable value.

At the time of drafting the 2012 OSRP, the Kuzeja family was in the process of dissolving the LLC under which this land had been conserved, which resulted in fee ownership being transferred back to one of the remaining original Kuzeja family members. The dissolution of this LLC has the potential to increase CR monitoring conflicts in future years and may require collaboration with Easthampton to ensure that the terms of the CR have been upheld.

**TABLE 23**

Owner of Land	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Year Acquired
Bertha Kuzeja	209-00-013	27.49	2001
Bertha Kuzeja	209-00-015	23.86	2001
Bertha Kuzeja	209-00-012	34.36	2005
Bertha Kuzeja	209-00-018	0.85	2005
Bertha Kuzeja	209-00-016	7.38	2011
Bertha Kuzeja	209-00-017	1.13	2011
Holyoke Community College Foundation	TBD	26.11	2012/2013

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## ***Parcels Owned by the Holyoke Water Department***

Because of its in-town reservoirs, the Holyoke Water Department (or Holyoke Water Works) owns considerable acreage in the City, in addition to its watershed holdings around the Tighe-Carmody Reservoir in Southampton. The parcels in Holyoke are shown in *Table 24*. The vast majority of this land (2402.12 acres) is reservoir watershed, protecting the water quality of runoff into the reservoirs. Some (46.061 acres) is used for pipelines to and from the reservoirs and treatment plant. Two parcels (27.12 acres) are former wells, which are no longer used. The Water Department also owns property, which is not considered open space, such as its headquarters at 20 Commercial Street. These parcels are not included in the table.

The Water Department has a long-term forestry plan for its holdings, aimed primarily at maintaining the health of the watersheds, but also providing funds for department activities. In general, the Department plans to acquire more watershed land in Holyoke as landowners wish to sell. Current plans include receipt of some of the western portion of parcel 177-00-011, which is owned by O'Connell's Engineering and Financial, Inc. This parcel was sold to O'Connell's by the City for development, with the agreement that the portion in the watershed would be transferred to the Water Department. The Water Department also finalized a land transfer with Holyoke Community College to preserve larger portions of Ashley Reservoir.

There are few threats to the in-town watersheds, with the exception of possible hazardous spills on Route 202 (Westfield Road), which is immediately adjacent to Ashley Reservoir. Development pressures within the watershed, such as recent interest in placing a casino on parcels that abut the Whiting Reservoir, for example, have the potential to negatively impact the ability of Holyoke's watershed lands to filter and treat municipal drinking water supplies.

These properties are all identified on the following pages. It should be noted that all of these parcels, unless documentation proves otherwise, are protected by Article 97.

**TABLE 24**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Map-Block-Parcel</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Recreational Potential</b>	<b>Public Access</b>
Pipeline	115-00-003	0.27	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	115-00-004	1.00	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	120-00-005	1.60	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	120-00-043	0.38	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	120-00-044	0.58	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Water Tower	145-00-001&2	24.80	Reservoir watershed	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Watershed	145-00-005	1.80	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited
Watershed	145-00-006	1.00	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited
Pipeline	145-00-059	2.50	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	160-00-031	4.20	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	160-00-032	6.30	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	161-00-064	4.40	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	165-00-001	0.34	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	165-00-019	0.34	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	165-00-020	0.44	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited
Pipeline	165-00-038	0.34	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited

Name	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Use	Condition	Recreational Potential	Public Access	Degree of Protection
Whiting Farms Road	166-00-058	0.90	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Pipeline	167-00-066	0.18	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Pipeline	167-00-069	0.80	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Watershed	177-00-003	2.30	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Watershed	177-00-010	3.97	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Watershed	177-00-012	7.97	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Unused Well Field	179-00-002	6.35	Site of old well	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Ashley Watershed	180-00-001	903.80	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Pipeline	183-00-004	24.89	Pipeline	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Watershed	183-00-014	26.50	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Watershed	193-00-001	498.0	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Watershed	193-00-003	14.00	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Unused Well Field	197-00-089	20.77	Site of old well	Good	Very low, public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Whiting Street Watershed	213-00-006	371.80	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent
Whiting Street Watershed	213-00-008	2.60	Reservoir watershed	Good	High; while public access is not allowed, this ranked highest among survey values.	Prohibited	Permanent



# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## Parcels Owned by the Holyoke Gas & Electric Company

As with the Holyoke Water Works, the Holyoke Gas & Electric Company owns land in West Holyoke for a gas pipeline, as listed in the table below. The Gas & Electric has acquired the canals, canal banks as well as riverbanks through the acquisition of the dam. These parcels are not listed below, as well as other sites owned by Gas & Electric that are not considered open space. Major additions to HG&E's properties include two large parcels on Mount Tom, see below, that were once actively pursued as a possible locations for wind power. This process proved to be unfeasible due to FAA regulations and telecommunications facilities were constructed instead. The remaining portions of these two parcels will most likely be conserved, pending development of wind, or purchased outright by the Commonwealth for the Mt. Tom State Reservation. The decisions made on these high profile parcels have the potential to affect the City's scenic ridgeline, but also present the community with the opportunity to produce clean, renewable energy. Taken together, G&E manages approximately 562 acres throughout the City.

**TABLE 25**

Name	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Use	Condition	Recreational Potential	Public Access
Gas & Electric	182-00-004	14.15	Gas pipeline	Good	Possible trail	None
Gas & Electric	182-00-005	4.57	Gas pipeline	Good	Possible trail	None
Gas & Electric	182-00-007	2.55	Gas pipeline	Good	Possible trail	None
Gas & Electric	188-00-005	4.28	Gas pipeline	Good	Possible trail	None
Water Power Park	037-01-010	0.37	Plantings, benches, on canal	Good	Passive Park	YES
Long Pond Cove	071-00-020	40.30	Informal access to river	Fair	Trails, fishing, swimming	None, RR tracks
Slim Shad Point	042-01-001	.91	ADA Fishing Access Point	Excellent	Excellent Fishing	Yes, Trails, ADA Ramp
Mount Tom	213-00-001	172	Passive recreation, trails, telecommunications	Fair	Trails, bird watching, education	Yes
Mount Tom	213-00-004	80	Passive recreation, trails, telecommunications	Fair	Trails, bird watching, education	Yes

**Parcels Owned by the West Springfield Water Department**

As with parcels owned by the Holyoke Water Works, parcels owned by the West Springfield Water Department are permanently protected from development. The parcels in Table 24 drain into the Bear Hole Reservoir in West Springfield, which provides some of the town's water supply. West Springfield currently has no plans to acquire more land in Holyoke for watershed protection. However, there are several landlocked parcels within close proximity to West Springfield's watershed lands that could be conserved as permanently protected open space, an action which would greatly enhance wildlife habitat and scenic attributes in West Holyoke.

**TABLE 26**

Name	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Use	Condition	Recreational Potential	Public Access	Degree of Protection
Bear Hole Watershed	177-00-002	105.2	Reservoir watershed	Good	Very low, because public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Bear Hole Watershed	177-00-004	0.8	Reservoir watershed	Good	Very low, because public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Bear Hole Watershed	177-00-005	7.2	Reservoir watershed	Good	Very low, because public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Bear Hole Watershed	177-00-006	0.3	Reservoir watershed	Good	Very low, because public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Bear Hole Watershed	177-00-007	12.0	Reservoir watershed	Good	Very low, because public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent
Bear Hole Watershed	177-00-009	16.6	Reservoir watershed	Good	Very low, because public access is prohibited	Prohibited	Permanent

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## State / Federally Owned Conservation Parcels

Over the past five years, Commonwealth of MA conservation agencies have assisted the City of Holyoke with the acquisition of many of the High priority parcels from the last Open Space Plan, including parcels that are prime rare and endangered species habitat. The Commonwealth currently owns **722.47** acres of conservation land within the City. Following is a listing of all parcels owned by state agencies located within the City. The City and the Commonwealth have established a successful track record of facilitating the acquisition of vulnerable open space at fair market value. Relying on this relationship will allow additional priority parcels to be conserved.

**TABLE 27**

Map-Block-Parcel	Acres	Owner/ Managing Agency	Notes
217-00-008	140.82	US Fish & Wildlife	Former Mt. Tom Ski Area
144-00-002; 144-00-005; 144-00-006; 144-00-007; 144-00-011; 144-00-071; 207-00-004	46.31	Mass Fish & Wildlife	Reservoir Watershed, Rare Species; Former Fanti Property
205-00-005	1.22	Mass Fish & Wildlife	Small parcel along Southampton – Holyoke Border
207-00-001	30.00	Mass Fish & Wildlife	Watershed, rare species, agricultural
211-00-001; 211-00-003; 211-00-004	64.21	Mass Fish & Wildlife	Forested; Secondary Recharge, rare species, M&M Trail, Watershed; Formerly Chapter 61 Edmonds Estate
211-00-015; 211-00-016; 211-00-017; 211-00-018; 211-00-019; 211-00-020; 211-00-021	4.42	Mass Fish & Wildlife	
213-00-005	14.00	Mass. Fish & Wildlife	Whiting Street Reservoir Watershed, Rare Species
145-00-017	86.00	Mass. Fish & Wildlife	Half in watershed, rare species; former JN Duquette & Sons
141-00-001	116.44	Mass EOEEA	Watershed, Rare Species; former R&G Development
216-00-001; 217-00-004; 219-00-019; 221-00-001	271.05	Mass EOEEA	Former Mt. Tom Ski Area parcel adjacent to State Reservation
178-00-002	64	Mass. Fish & Wildlife	Endangered species habitat, Trails, education, nature appreciation

# 5 Inventory of lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest

## State / Federally Owned Recreation Parcels

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts owns several parcels that are very important for recreation purposes in Holyoke. These include the Mt. Tom State Reservation, Holyoke Heritage State Park, and Holyoke Community College, among others. The state owns a total of 1,632.41 acres in Holyoke, which are considered of recreational interest

**TABLE 28**

Name	Map-Block-Parcel	Acreage	Owner/Managing Agency	Facilities	Cond.	Public Access	Grant Funds Used	Degree of Protection
Fitzpatrick Skating Rink	058-00-019	5.56	DCS/Private	Ice Skating Rink	Good	Fee	CDBG	Perm.
Heritage State Park	021-01-001; 021-01-012; 021-01-013	6.39	DCR	Visitor Center, history exhibits, carousel, sitting area, picnic area, playground	Good	Good	LWCF	Perm.
Holyoke Community College	155-00-004	135.8	Dept. of Higher Education	Track, 1 baseball field, 1 softball field, 1 soccer field, 6 tennis courts, trails, aquatic and athletic facility	Good	Good	LWCF	Perm.
Mt. Tom State Reservation	224-00-001; 226-00-006;	1,398.50	DCR	Trails, visitor	Good	Good	LWCF	Perm.
East Mountain Wildlife Management Area	200-00-004	84.51	DFW	Hunting, trapping, hiking	Good	Good	None	Perm.
Scott Tower Field (in-parcel)	145-00-092	1.65	DCR	Landlocked parcel; former location of state pool; grassland field	Good	Good	LWCF	Perm.



# 6 Community Vision

## Community Survey and Plan Development

This Plan is designed to build off of Open Space and Recreation Plans that were developed in previous decades. This Plan was drafted by the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, and Parks Department, with substantial input from the Public. In order to ensure that the components of this plan were as representative as possible of the Community's interests, and aggressive public outreach campaign was conducted in the fall and winter of 2011/2012. The Holyoke Conservation Commission and Parks Department created a digital survey that was hosted on the City's website. This survey was available in both English and Spanish, in both printed and digital versions. Surveys were also provided to several community organizations and posted at City Departments. Links to the survey were also distributed at large community events. In addition to the surveys, three separate community forums were held to gather and solicit input from Community members. These community forums were conducted in both English and Spanish and allowed previously unrepresented members of the Community to provide comments to the drafters of the plan. Multiple print and video outlets carried articles about the plan development process, especially as it related to engaging and involving a broad cross-section of the community. The Survey, in conjunction with the community forums, played an instrumental role in establishing the City's Open Space and Recreation goals for the next 5 years. Overall, approximately 450 residents participated in the process, which represents a significant increase in citizen participation. The Conservation Commission, Parks Commission and Planning Board all reviewed and approved this document prior to the City Council's adoption of this document.

## Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals

Holyoke contains a diverse natural environment and a rich cultural environment. The scenic vistas, passive and active recreation opportunities, well-defined

neighborhoods, historic resources, water resources and rare plant and animal habitats that form Holyoke help to make Holyoke a unique and distinct community. In order to preserve and improve these resources, Holyoke residents want to continue to invest in supporting and maintaining the City's unique natural and cultural features. The residents envision a future in which the City's exception scenic and cultural resources are seamlessly integrated into the City's daily fabric. To that end, the City will implement the following goals and strategies.

## Major Open Space and Recreation Goals and Strategies

- **Continue to invest resources in the enhancement of existing municipal recreational facilities.**
- **Integrate the City's existing open space and recreation facilities into the Community to make the City's distinct neighborhoods desirable locations for residents, visitors and employers.**
- **Determine locations for additional and long-term sites for community gardens.**
- **Make bicycle transportation a more widely-used component of the City's transportation infrastructure**
- **Preserve the City's cherished drinking water supply watershed lands.**
- **Provide recreation opportunities for individuals of all ages and physical abilities.**
- **Preserve the City's scenic resources along the Mount Tom ridge and Connecticut River**
- **Enhance use and usability of parks through addressing safety concerns for residents, businesses and landowners.**

*(Continued on page 129)*



# 7 Analysis of Needs

- Develop wildlife management plans on municipally-owned parcels to encourage the creation of habitats to meet the needs of the City's rare plant and animal species
- Limited thinning of vegetation within municipally-owned conservation parcels to open up scenic vistas of the Connecticut River and Mount Tom (support for scenic views).
- Continue to take steps to provide further opportunities for access to the Connecticut River, through development of locations for scenic vistas and recreational fishing (strong verbal support).
- Support the conservation of Holyoke's rural lands through taking actions that will continue to support investment and redevelopment in Downtown Holyoke (72.2% support for encouraging this growth pattern).
- review of fees as the department continues to expand is an ongoing process. (Roberts Field Sports Complex, Community Field, year round public park, scheduling for all of the city's playing fields, Pouliot Pool, etc)
- Actively search for alternative funding sources. (Grants, collaborating with area agencies, sponsorships, leases and user fees).

The Recreation Commission and Planning Board, working through the public planning process, have identified the following as the most critical recreation and park needs:

- Improve and develop City recreational facilities and parks. Creation of Skateboard Park. Renovation of Veteran's Park, renovation of Community Field, renovation of Avery Park, etc.
- Through formal & informal methods, stay keenly aware of recreational opportunities programs that are offered throughout the city & conduct a needs assessment for new and ongoing programs.
- Continue to strengthen public and private partnerships/collaborations to enhance recreational facilities and programs.
- Streamlining facility rentals, updating the department's permitting process/policies and an annual

# 7 Analysis of Needs

## Summary of Community's Needs

Holyoke's parks have undergone a significant and meaningful transformation since the 2005 OSRP. Holyoke's Mayors, along with the City Council, Office of Planning & Economic Development, the Parks Department, the Conservation Commission, the Department of Public Works, and Holyoke's volunteers and citizen groups have renovated, maintained, and expanded what the City's parks and open spaces have to offer.

This Plan analyzes the challenges and assets of the City of Holyoke regarding parks and open space, and has evaluated the accomplishments made during the prior plan. This has identified several community needs, as described below.

### Increased Linkages Between Existing Open Space and Recreation Facilities

As noted earlier in this Plan, Holyoke contains an abundance of open space. Forty-two percent of the City's land area is currently enrolled in some form of open space protection, 17% of which are permanently protected. An aggressive plan to permanently protect the remainder of this open space would yield significant benefits. For a community with a population of 39,800, this represents an incredible resource. However, development patterns have resulted in a system of legacy neighborhood parks in the historic developed portion of the City and large forested tracts of land in the rural portion of the City. Investing in pedestrian and bicycle upgrades and planning direct linkages for pedestrians and bicyclists between parks in the western and eastern portions of the community has the potential greatly enhance the City's recreational offerings. This does not necessarily need to be the product of the construction of dedicated multi-use paths. In some cases, investment in pedestrian crossings and sidewalk upgrades, or signage, could serve as a means for providing these linkages. Survey data and community comments during the 2012 OSRP planning process clearly indicated that there is strong support for creating these types of pedestrian and bicycle linkages.

In addition to this, the City also needs to examine ways to partner with private and non-profit groups to enhance the variety of activities available to residents. Creating dedicated and permanent community gardening spaces, through partnerships with existing community groups, appears to be an area that the community supports very strongly. The creation of this type of recreational amenity would help to provide activities for families and seniors that might not be present in 2012. This theme also ties into the need to utilize existing open space and recreation in a way that meets the requirements of teens; the construction of a dedicated skate board facility emerged as one of the most-demanded amenities in open-ended survey questions.

### Improved Open Space

In addition to expanding linkages, a primary need is to continue to invest in improving the quality of open space and recreational facilities and programs. The needs of all residents should be met through a combination of interesting, sustainable, and accessible opportunities. The City of Holyoke manages 55 parks and open spaces; an estimated 20% of which were identified as having poor conditions that require attention or repair. Typical needs related to damaged surfaces, inadequate lighting, and lack of activities for all user groups. The improvement of existing parks through comprehensive management activities was identified as the top priority for residents in the 2012 OSRP survey data. The City has a track record that demonstrates it is capable of addressing these renovation needs, as evidenced by the recent reconstruction of Community Field and Veterans' Park. However, improvements need to continue, particularly in neighborhood pocket parks in Holyoke's historic downtown.

Holyoke's park system is mature, but investments are occurring to retrofit properties and create opportunities to meet the needs of today's residents. The City

*(Continued on page 132)*



# 7 Analysis of Needs

has constructed a boating facility on the Connecticut River and is redeveloping Community Field to create an open park that will incorporate amenities for soccer players, nature enthusiasts and residents in need of a dog park. This direction represents an opportunity to bring the City forward to reflect the needs of today's park users. Simultaneously, the City is demonstrating its commitment to building a sustainable green infrastructure system in its public parks. Rain gardens and green roofs have become a major component of park redevelopments, which will not only serve the environmental objective of reducing the City's stormwater load but will also provide the additional benefit of providing wildlife habitat and quiet spaces for contemplation in the City's dense urban cluster.

In addition to making consistent improvement, the creation of a sense of security will be important for providing open space and recreation opportunities for the City's residents. As noted earlier in the plan, fear for personal safety was identified as the number one factor that prevented residents from using City parks. This is rooted in the City's deeply entrenched social problems that emerged during decades of economic stagnation, a period of history that the City is consistently and continuously working to grow out of. Nevertheless, creating safe and engaging open space is a City priority. This will require infrastructure improvements (such as enhanced lighting) as well as broader community efforts to correct.

Problems within the parks and recreation areas that were identified by residents in the survey and at forums included poor lighting, trash and illegal drug activity. Acknowledgment has been given as well to the improvements made by the City in the past few years. Holyoke Police recently instituted the use of community policing in heavy drug use areas around some of the parks to address the illegal drug activity. Cooperation and assistance from community-based organizations with the adopt-a-park program or clean up efforts and consciousness-raising campaigns to educate and influence our community attitudes to-

wards litter have begun to have a positive effect. These concerns as well as others have been incorporated in to the objectives and strategies as well as into the five-year plan.

Without a surplus of easily developable land, the pressure on the existing park system to provide refuge and recreational opportunities for 40,000 residents is substantial. Renovating existing parks and open spaces has the potential to promote the health, well-being, and safety of all residents.

## Managing the Needs of a Bilingual City

Based upon the 2010 Census, 48% of the City's residents identified themselves as Hispanic. The number of white, non-Hispanic residents was 46.8%. For the first time in the City's history, Hispanics represent a plurality, the largest portion, of the City's residents. This presents opportunities and challenges that are not common in other communities in the Commonwealth. Steps are being taken to increase engagement and involvement of this substantial component of the City's demographic composition. For example, City employees are being offered opportunities to learn conversational Spanish and municipal documents and plans, such as this one, are incorporating Spanish-language documents into the planning process. This is both an opportunity and a challenge. For example, involving the Hispanic community in programming decisions at municipal parks will allow the City to provide unique recreational amenities that will be difficult to replicate in other communities. At the same time, managing this outreach will require considerations of multiple stakeholder groups to be effective.

## Linkages to SCORP Data

The 2006 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) outlines general "supply and demand" trends related to open space and recreation across the Commonwealth, and offers statewide and region-wide, open-space needs assessments based on survey data and inferential analyses.

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# 7 Analysis of Needs

## Statewide Unmet Need for Recreation Facilities

Overall, the greatest statewide need is greatest for trail-based activities, with walking and road biking indicated as the individual activities in greatest demand. Field-based activities rank second as priority needs for new facilities, with playground activity, tennis, and golfing ranked at the top of the activity need list. Finally, a strong need exists for water-based activities, with swimming indicated as the facility most needed statewide.

In simple rank order, the ten most needed or desired facilities mentioned by respondents are:

Desired Facility    Percent of Respondents Using the Facility

1. Swimming 14.8%
2. Walking 13.8%
3. Road Biking 12.9%
4. Playground Activity 9.9%
5. Tennis 8.0%
6. Golfing 7.9%
7. Hiking 7.1%
8. Mountain Biking 6.7%
9. Basketball 6.2%
10. Baseball 5.3%

Regionally, facility needs are similar to statewide needs, with trail-based activities at the top of all regional lists. Field-based and water-based activities follow in need and are too close to accurately rank. However, there are notable differences among regions and between regions and statewide results. Most regional results show a clear relationship between the facilities available in an area and the facilities respondents would most like to see more of (that is, those in greatest supply are in least demand and those in least supply are in greatest demand). In Holyoke, it is important consider these needs and thoroughly evaluate existing facilities determine whether or not use patterns can support this demand before committing to new facilities. Programmatic changes may fulfill some portion of the expressed

need.

A distinctive pattern emerges in the Connecticut Valley Region, including the hilltowns of Hampshire, Hampden and Franklin Counties. Hiking (10.7%) and playground activity (11.3%) ranked high with swimming and road biking, but also hiking, mountain biking (10.3%), and cross country skiing (4.1%) are ranked higher than in any other region.

In Holyoke, the data seems to suggest that the City's trails are highly used. 77.3% of survey respondents indicated a preference hiking on trails above all other forms of recreation. This is most likely attributable to the popularity of Holyoke's watershed land around Ashley and Whiting Reservoir; when asked to identify a favorite location, an overwhelming number of respondents indicated that these reservoirs were their favorite location in the City. Relative to the region's data, Cross country skiers were not identified as a particular user group by Holyoke's survey respondents, and playground activity was not explicitly called out in the data. Cycling did emerge as an area in which residents had an interest, with 48% responding that they use road bikes and 36% responding that they used mountain bikes. This is consistent with the statewide data patterns, as these ranked fairly high. Holyoke is unique insofar as places of historic and cultural value (i.e. the Dinosaur Tracks, architecture and the Fish Lift) were more widely used by Holyoke Residents than by the region's residents.

## Need Expressed by Non-White Ethnic Groups

Significant differences exist in activity-based needs among ethnic groups, according to perceptions of need. The interest expressed in more field-based facilities, particularly for basketball and playgrounds was much higher among people of color than among the statewide sample. Conversely, the trail and wilderness based activities were of significantly less need among these groups than the state sample. As noted in the Demand section of the SCORP, these ac-

*(Continued on page 134)*

# 7 Analysis of Needs

tivity preferences may reflect the more urban locations of these populations and a lack of access or exposure to some activities than a disinterest in the activity per se.

African-Americans expressed significantly more interest than the state sample in facilities for volleyball (6.6% versus 1.1% statewide), football (5.0 versus 1.4%), and basketball (15.8% versus 6.2%), yet not so much as Other/Multi-racial groups did in basketball (23.0%) and tennis (26.2%). Hispanics expressed significantly higher levels of interest in facilities for basketball and playground activities, along with somewhat greater levels for baseball, soccer, mountain biking and swimming. Holyoke will need to be especially attentive to the needs of the Hispanic community to ensure that these interests are not unmet. For now, absent a formal outdoor swimming area and a formal mountain biking location, the City is taking steps to provide these amenities.

## Need Expressed by People with Disabilities

Households with people with disabilities report usage rates that are very similar to the statewide average. They report significantly lower participation rates only for golfing. When asked to indicate how a domestic disability affects their household's recreation activities, responses fell into two categories. Many responses emphasized that the disability had little or no affect on the recreation. Some responses suggest that, for disabilities relating to mobility, usage of recreation areas is lower.

## ADA Compliance

It is critical to work to fully meet accessibility needs for the City's residents. Beginning with the 2012 OSRP update, the City initiated a process of assessing parks for compliance with ADA Standards for Accessible Design. The results of this survey will allow the City to program Improvements for ADA compliance, which can then be prioritized to help the City meet its ADA compliance responsibilities. As with many communities, the City has many legacy parks that were constructed prior to broader awareness of the design needs of multiple ability groups. It will

take time and significant investment to make each municipal park accessible to users of all abilities. Going forward, the City will continue to examine residential needs and to ensure equal accessibility whenever possible.

There are three areas of recreational need for persons with disabilities that will be addressed over the next five years. One task is to improve the access points of many of the parks where there is no paved walkway. Many of these entrances have uneven surfaces that have sunken below grade level. They need to be leveled and paved to ensure accessibility into any recreation program being offered in which the participant can experience success. Third is to develop programs that specifically target persons with disabilities in order to be able to more directly support their recreational interests.

## Recreational Health

As with many communities, obesity is a concern in Holyoke. Through its open space and recreation amenities, the City can work towards a healthier environment for its residents. These amenities offer opportunities for active play in addition to passive recreation, which helps fight obesity, diabetes and other health issues, especially in children. Pedestrian walkways, bikeways, and play areas create an overall more healthy and fitness-positive community. Additionally, innovative methods are being developed for bringing urban agriculture to downtown to increase local food access and job opportunities for neighborhoods.

The City has received a Food and Fitness Policy Grant from the Kellogg Foundation which aims to improve local food access and food security to neighborhoods of low-income and underserved populations. Implementation of community gardens is a main goal of the Community Action Plan. The City also recently completed an Innovation-Based Economic Development Strategy, which includes focusing on growing the agricultural economy of Holyoke into

*(Continued on page 135)*

# 7 Analysis of Needs

a strong economic sector for the financial success of residents and to further provide food security. Through recent community surveys, there has been a strong interest in increasing local food supply through a variety of means and methods designed to promote the long-term viability of commercial and small-scale urban agriculture. With existing funding sources, goals and needs, recreational parcels are a top priority for Holyoke and its residents.

## Management of Needs

### Recreation

Like many communities, the ongoing maintenance responsibilities of Holyoke's four entities involved in the maintenance of park and recreation areas—Parks and Recreation Department, Department of Public Works, Holyoke School Department and the Conservation Commission—require substantial investment and resources. As resources grow scarcer, recreation maintenance funds are likely to conflict with other core responsibilities. Fortunately, the City has been very successful in receiving grant monies to rehabilitate existing parks. Nevertheless, actions that support park area management needs will continue to require investment of scarce resources:

1. To the extent resources allow, the City should continue to invest in facilities upgrades that address needs of residents.
2. The City should build off of the efforts of neighborhood clean-up groups to establish formal "friends" groups that are tasked with advocating for neighborhood parks, as is the case with Jones Point Park.
3. Through the Council on Aging, the City should continue to be dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for the City's elder population, 60 and over.
4. The City should continue to identify barriers that prevent individuals with differing abilities from fully

utilizing municipal park land and to the extent resources allow prioritize funding opportunities to remove these barriers.

5. The City should continue to work to meet the needs of families through providing activities for user groups of all ages, including teenagers.
6. The City should continue to actively address safety concerns in order to create a secure environment for use of parks.

### Conservation

Compared to many cities, Holyoke has a large portion of its land area contains forests, wetlands, agricultural lands and permanently protected open space. Nevertheless, the open space and recreation planning process has identified the following conservation needs:

1. Permanent protection of agricultural lands.
2. Permanent protection of Holyoke's drinking water supply watershed lands.
3. Preservation of Holyoke's scenic and cultural landscapes.

### *Potential Conflicts between Renewable Energy and Outdoor Recreation*

At the time of drafting this plan, Holyoke was experiencing robust private and public sector interest in the development of renewable energy facilities throughout Holyoke. This is mostly a function of Holyoke offering economies of scale—created through renewable energy zoning incentives, the existing dam and easily accessible distribution network—that make the development of renewable energy in Holyoke more cost-effective than it would be in surrounding communities. From an environmental perspective, this is a boon to the Community because it reduces the consumption of fossil fuels throughout the region and helps to manage utility costs for homeowners. How-

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# 7 Analysis of Needs

ever, due to the cost of constructing on existing rooftop properties, many of these facilities are likely to be sited on a portion of Holyoke's remaining rural lands. Depending on the scale of development, this trend has the potential to alter the rural character of Holyoke's least developed neighborhoods. These changes could cause significant aesthetic alterations to Holyoke's rural neighborhoods and these impacts should be fully explored during the permitting process to ensure that the values that Holyoke's citizens identified in the 2012 OSRP survey are maintained for future generations. This does not mean that this plan is taking any stance on the feasibility or viability of solar power in rural settings. Rather, this section is serving to highlight the fact that the values identified by the Community in the 2012 OSRP should be taken into consideration when reviewing plans for any proposed solar facility.

## Special Opportunities

### *Downtown Holyoke*

As identified in Holyoke's 2009 Center City Vision Plan (VHB) identified Holyoke's vacant properties as locations that will allow the City to redevelop or enhance existing locations in Downtown Holyoke. According to the 2012 URP - "Connect. Construct. Create. A Plan to Revitalize Center City Holyoke" - 92% of parcels identified for acquisition are vacant land and buildings. These vacant buildings, and their exceptional architectural legacy, present Holyoke with a significant, and unique, redevelopment opportunity. One strategy identified in the 2009 document is the expansion of the City's Arts & Industry Overlay, which will increase the redevelopment potential of the City's historic canals and mill buildings. As of 2012, the City has selected a site and will begin the construction of a commuter rail platform in Downtown Holyoke to enhance the redevelopment potential of these buildings. Concurrently, the City is moving forward with plans to finalize the construction of the additional phases of the canal walk. The combination of enhanced pedestrian amenities, a commuter rail platform and enhanced zoning incentives to invest in

Downtown has strong potential to increase development within this portion of the City. Increased investment will result in increased residential occupancy and commercial activity, and additional resources will need to be allocated to meet the open space and recreation needs of this change. Converting vacant parcels to parkland represents one potential method for enhancing green space in Downtown Holyoke. Another could be linking existing parks together with pedestrian and bicycle upgrades and amenities. Improving open space amenities in downtown Holyoke is consistent with existing planning documents and will serve to enhance the quality of life for current and future residents.

### *Mount Tom*

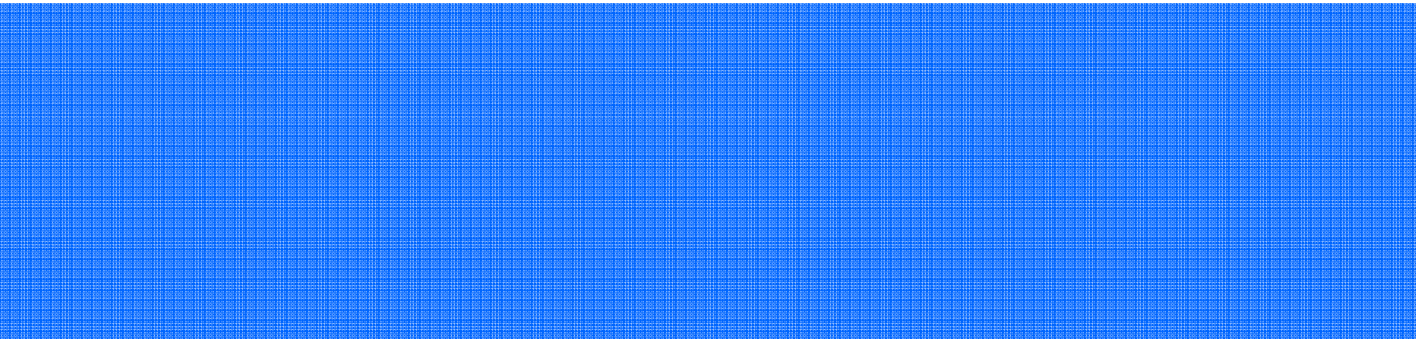
The former Mount Tom Ski area and Quarry represent a significant opportunity to develop open space amenities for the Community. Currently, the Boys and Girls Club, as the owner of the former ski facilities, is engaged in a strategic visioning session to identify a feasible approach towards making this an outdoor center. Should this outdoor center prove to be a viable alternative for the former Mount Tom Ski area, significant opportunity exists to create linkages between Holyoke and the surrounding mountain range. Should the Department of Conservation and Recreation end up purchasing the former Quarry, long-term strategies for integrating this property into the Community will need to be developed.





### *New England Trail*

The New England Scenic Trail, via the Appalachian Mountain Club, has undergone a process of enhancing the visibility and broader cultural awareness of the New England Scenic Trail. The NET provides the region with a genuine long-distance hiking experience, and a significant portion of this trail runs along the spine of Holyoke. Increased awareness of the NET on a regional and local level has the potential to provide enhanced interest in Holyoke's unique hiking and outdoor amenities.



# 8 Goals and Objectives

## Recreation

In the year 2002, the City of Holyoke combined the Parks Department (labor division) and its Forestry Division with the Department of Public Works. The Recreation Department was left to fulfill its Mission Statement: “to provide quality recreational programs and opportunities to all residents.” It took several years to successfully transition from a labor oriented department to a programming department.

In 2012, it became clear that Recreation Department has masterly fulfilled, and even exceed our Mission statement. As needs and resources continually shift, so have the goals and priorities of the Recreation Department.

The City of Holyoke has increased the number of recreational facilities in recent years, without increasing the manpower needed to adequately maintain them. In 2012 Community Field, the City’s \$3.8 Million Dollar year round outdoor park will re-open for public use. In the year 2013, a central downtown park will be completely renovated, and open for public use. Veteran’s Park was awarded a 1.2 Million Dollar Gateways City Grant. In 2013, a new skateboard park will also be constructed and open to the public, as an award of \$250,000 was allotted in 2012 from Community Development Block Grant funds.

## **Goal**

Maintain, improve and develop City parks and school recreation areas that provide residents with facilities in which to enjoy passive and active recreation. Establish and expand recreational opportunities that serve all residents of Holyoke.

### **Objective 1:** Improve and develop City recreational facilities and parks.

- Strategy: The total redesign and renovation of Community Field will be complete in 2012
- Strategy: The design and construction of a Skateboard Park will be complete during 2012 – 2013
- Strategy: Partial renovation of basketball, parking lot & handicap access at Pulaski Park will be completed in 2012-2013.
- Strategy: A complete renovation of Veteran’s Park will take place during 2012 - 2013
- Strategy: The possible redesign & renovation of Avery Park could take place during 2013 – 2014
- Strategy: The possible redesign of Soucey Park could take place during 2015-2016.
- Strategy: Consistently advocate for adequate man-power to maintain city owned recreational facilities.



# 8 Goals and Objectives

Strategy: Concentrate more on developing and fostering neighborhood alliances & civic organizations to assist with maintaining City parks & facilities.

Objective 2: Through formal & informal methods, stay keenly aware of recreational opportunities programs that are offered throughout the City and conduct a yearly needs assessment for new and ongoing programs.

Strategy: Continue to strengthen public and private partnerships/collaborations to enhance recreational facilities and programs.

Strategy: Institute a comprehensive program/event evaluation process at the conclusion of the program/event. This process will determine the program's effectiveness and assist with departmental efficiency. Continue to offer new recreational programs, where there is a need in the community. (i.e., offering after school programs for youngsters at the former Lynch School gymnasium, continue to strengthen the Girls Field Hockey Program.)

Objective 3: Stream lining Facility Rentals & Permitting Process.

Strategy: Annual update of the department's permitting process and policies by the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Strategy: Annual review of fees by the Parks & Recreation Commission as the department continues to expand is an ongoing process. (Roberts Field Sports Complex, Community Field, etc.)

Strategy: Implement on line scheduling for all of the City's playing fields, including Roberts Field Sports Complex, Community Field, Pouliot Pool, etc.)

Objective 4: Actively search for alternative funding sources. (Grants, collaborating with area agencies, sponsorships, leases and user fees etc.)

Strategy: Continue to aggressively search for appropriate grant opportunities, (Community Development Block Grants, PARC funding, Gateway Cities, Tony Hawk Foundation, etc.)

Strategy: Continue local collaborations to strengthen & enhance delivery of services, i.e., Food & Fitness Policy Council, Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, etc.

Strategy: Continue to seek sponsorships for recreational programs. (i.e., sponsorship of Parks & Recreation teams and leagues from the private sector.)

# 8 Goals and Objectives

## Natural Resources and Open Space

The Holyoke Conservation Commission coordinates with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and local/regional land trusts to facilitate the protection of the City's valuable open and scenic resources. Since 2005, the Conservation Commission has facilitated multiple conservation restrictions and fee simple acquisitions of key parcels. This is a practice that the Commission envisions continuing for the duration of this update to the City's OSRP. At present, there are few remaining large parcels of conservation value in the City and direct coordination with the City's state and non-profit partners to preserve these parcels will have a lasting, significant impact on the City's long-term ability to provide open space for residents and wildlife habitat for rare species for future generations. This will require a significant amount of work and political support, but, at present, the survey data indicates that there is strong public support for accomplishing this goal. In addition, the Commission will spend the next five years working towards integrating existing parklands into the municipal bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. In addition to working proactively towards preserving the City's remaining open space, the Commission will continue to enforce both the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the City's Wetlands Ordinance. Maps 28a and 28b identify the long-term goals of the City.

**Goal: Preserve, protect and enhance natural resources, cultural resources, biodiversity, and open space throughout the City of Holyoke and enhance enjoyment of these resources through providing low-impact opportunities for the residents to interact with these resources.**

## Objectives

- Objective 1. Facilitate the Protection of Holyoke's Natural and Cultural Resources
- Objective 2. Preserve properties that support Holyoke's ground and surface drinking water supplies
- Objective 3. Preserve the City's scenic landscapes
- Objective 4. Promote the development of local agriculture
- Objective 5. Promote integration of pedestrian network into transportation infrastructure

## Strategies

### **Objective 1. Facilitate the Protection of Holyoke's Natural and Cultural Resources:**

- Strategy: Preserve at least one priority conservation parcel
- Strategy: Develop a funding source for land acquisition – i.e. Community Preservation Act
- Strategy: Secure parcels that will create a wildlife corridor in Holyoke
- Strategy: Use open space to secure neighborhood character
- Strategy: Incorporate land conservation requirements into large-scale development projects with environmental impacts

# 8 Goals and Objectives

## **Objective 2: Preserve properties that support Holyoke's ground and surface drinking water supplies**

- Strategy: Update aquifer protection overlay
- Strategy: Support land conservation projects that will secure the Aquifer Protection Overlay
- Strategy: Secure grant funding through Massachusetts Drinking Water Supply Protection Grants to acquire parcels.
- Strategy: Provide source protection information to private homeowners with private water sources
- Strategy: Coordinate with members of the Barnes Aquifer Protection Advisory Committee to ensure that regional developments do not impair groundwater supplies in Holyoke.

## **Objective 3: Preserve the City's scenic landscapes**

- Strategy: Adopt a ridgeline protection overlay ordinance
- Strategy: Review zoning ordinances to ensure that adequate protection is given to scenic resources and amend zoning ordinance when feasible.
- Strategy: Preserve remaining scenic parcels that are undeveloped, work with partners at local, regional and state level to protect remaining key parcels.

## **Objective 4: Promote the development of local agriculture**

- Strategy: Support development of community gardens
- Strategy: Use APR program, or fee simple, to acquire and protect key remaining agricultural parcels
- Strategy: Adopt zoning and code provisions that support small-scale agriculture (Right-to-farm)
- Strategy: Work to develop farm-to-table programs in schools

## **Objective 5: Promote integration of pedestrian network into transportation infrastructure**

- Strategy: Support redevelopment of downtown through applying for grants for pedestrian infrastructure (i.e. canal walk)
- Strategy: Enhance pedestrian amenities through linking user features with trails (i.e. skate park and bike path)
- Strategy: Support the New England Scenic Trail with volunteer hours and grant funding
- Strategy: Target pedestrian upgrades to link together green spaces in urban and rural Communities

# 9 Five Year Action Plan

The work that has gone into updating the City’s Open Space and Recreation Plan has resulted in the following action items. Each of these action items supports the goals and strategies identified in Section 8 and, moreover, are reflective of community and citizen input that was received during the development of this document. These items are summarized on Maps 27a and 27b.

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
Ongoing	<b>Maintain all City fields, parks, playgrounds, pool, facilities including:</b> replacement & repair of benches, and playground equipment. Replenish safety surface under all playgrounds. Groom & line all playing fields. Regular trash removal. Zero tolerance for graffiti. Regular pruning of shrubs & trees. Enhance feeling of safety for users.	Parks/DPW- Yearly operating budget. User fees, and grants	Parks/DPW School Department Police Department
Ongoing	Expand and enhance recreation programs and opportunities that serve Holyoke residents’ needs.	Recreation Department, user fees, grants and collaboration with other organizations.	Recreation Department
Ongoing	Complete yearly park/facilities inspections & make necessary upgrades and/or repairs	Parks/DPW	Parks/DPW School Department
Ongoing	Continue to operate year long recreational programs in the gymnasium of the former Lynch School. Continue to seek alternatives to the use & possible sale of the site.	Parks/DPW Recreation Department	Parks/DPW Recreation Department



# 9 Five Year Action Plan

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
Ongoing	Continue yearly assessment of recreational programs/needs of for all City residents. Develop realistic programming and programming goals for the Recreation Department.	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
Ongoing	Continue to offer quality, season programs for members of the community, i.e., Spring Celebrations, Tree Lighting, Halloween, Senior Picnics, etc. Seek creative alternative funding mechanisms, i.e. sponsorships, grants.	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
Ongoing	Build upon summer recreational sports clinics/camps that take place at the Roberts Field Sports Complex. Summer programs were initiated in the summer of 2008.	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
Ongoing	Strengthen existing collaborations with community organizations and continue to develop new collaborations. I.e., Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Holyoke Community College, Food & Fitness, Holyoke Health Center, etc.	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
Ongoing	Conduct yearly review of all user & policy fees. Conduct yearly review of all Parks & Recreation Department policies.	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
Ongoing	Continue to develop working relationship with the School Department. (primarily athletic Director) to coordinate field usage, programming, field maintenance issues, booster clubs, etc.	Parks/DPW Recreation Department School Department	Recreation Department School Department

# 9 Five Year Action Plan

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
Ongoing	Continue to grow & strengthen the Recreation Department's season, part-time workforce. Through advocacy for funds, and training for specialized positions, i.e. program instructors, lifeguards, and maintenance positions.	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
2012 - 2013	Open newly constructed Community Field to residents (6/30/12). Develop maintenance, security and user fees for year round operations of the facility (Community Field design phase listed in 2006 - 2006 Action Plan)	Parks/DPW	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2012- 2013	Seek bids for the renovation of Veterans Park. Master plan for renovation was completed in 2011. Grant for construction was awarded in 2012. Renovations will be complete in the Spring of 2013. ( Skate Parks needs & assessment listed in 2007 - 2008 Action Plan to begin needs assessment & design phase.	Parks/DPW	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2012- 2013	Determine location for the construction of a Skate Board Park. (CDBG money was appropriated for project in 2012. PARC Grant will be submitted 7/12) Bids for project will be solicited in Fall, 2012. Project will be complete in 2013.	CDBG Parks/DPW PARC grant	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2012- 2013	Pulaski Park-select a contractor through the bidding process to renovate the parking and basketball courts at Pulaski Park. (CDBG funds for the project were awarded in 2010.)	CDBG Parks/DPW Recreation Department	Parks/DPW

# 9 Five Year Action Plan

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
2012-2013	Design comprehensive park signage CDBG was awarded in 2012 to begin designing & installing uniform park signage throughout the City	CDBG Parks/DPW PARC grant	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2012-2013	Seek grant funding for the re-design of Avery Field	CDBG Parks/DPW PARC grant	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2012 - 2013	Jones Ferry River Access Center - Renewal of Lease agreement. Holyoke Rows had been awarded the contract to operate the facility (new boathouse) since it was constructed in 2009. Applying for funds from Urban Self Help Grant listed in 2005 -2006 Action Plan.  Construct ADA ramp for dock.	Parks/DPW Recreation Department/ PARC grant	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2013-2014	Continue maintenance operations at Pouliot Pool & replace the perimeter fencing.	Parks/DPW Recreation Department Grants	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2013 - 2014	Offer a Summer Dance Camp Program at Community Field for Children. Develop curriculum & user fees.	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
2015 - 2016	Construct & install storage bins at all city playing fields. This will improve the sites aesthetics, as field material will be properly stored.	Parks/DPW Recreation Department	Parks/DPW Recreation Department

# 9 Five Year Action Plan

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
2013 - 2014	Seek alternative funding to replace the track and artificial turf at the Roberts Field Sports Complex.	Parks/DPW Recreation Department	Parks/DPW Recreation Department
2014-2015	Replace player benches at Crosier Field and Jones Point Park	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
2014 - 2015	Offer on line program registration to residents	Recreation Department	Recreation Department
2014 - 2015	Re-surface tennis courts at Crosier Field, Jones Point and the Roberts Field Sports Complex.	Park/DPW Recreation Department Grants	Parks/DPW
2014 - 2015	Re-surface basketball courts at Ely Park, Springdale Park and the Roberts Field Sports Complex	Parks/DPW Recreation Department	Parks/DPW
2015 - 2016	Work with the City's Forestry Division to re-instate an active Forestry Department	Parks/DPW	Parks/DPW



# 9 Five Year Action Plan

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
2012-2013	Apply for forestry grants to plant new trees in many parks and tree belts	DEP Urban Forestry Grant Program	Conservation Commission
2012-2013	Identify a location to host a tree nursery to supply trees to the City, preferably through a collaboration with local farmers and non-profits.	DEP Urban Forestry Grant Program	Conservation Commission
Ongoing 2012-2017	Increase monitoring and reporting of conditions of City-owned open space, including Conservation Restrictions and Fee Simple parcels	Conservation Commission Budget	Conservation Commission Volunteers
2013	Install signage at Conservation Commission managed open space to inform citizens of availability of natural areas and prevent encroachment onto municipal parcels	Conservation Commission Budget	Conservation Commission
2015	Obtain funding and environmental permitting to allow vista pruning at McNulty Park and Pulaski park to open up scenic vistas to residents.	Capital Planning DCR RTP	Conservation Commission
2017	Review surface water and groundwater protection overlay amend as necessary to protect Barnes Aquifer and reservoirs	Municipal Budget/PVPC/BAPAC	Conservation Commission Planning & Economic Development

# 9 Five Year Action Plan

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
2014-2015	Amend the zoning ordinance to include scenic ridgeline protection provisions that do not currently exist	Municipal Budget	Conservation Commission Planning & Economic Development
Ongoing 2012-2015	Identify long-term locations for community gardens that are both convenient for residents and free from residual toxins.	PARC/LAND Grants EPA Brownfield Assessments	Conservation Commission Parks and Recreation Planning & Economic Development
Ongoing 2012-2015	Intensify efforts to construct multi-modal pedestrian and bicycle transportation amenities.	RTP PARC LAND	Conservation Commission DPW Planning & Economic Development
Ongoing 2012-2015	Link Holyoke's existing bicycle and pedestrian networks into the region's existing long distance hiking and biking trails	PVPC RTP PARC LAND	Conservation Commission DPW Planning & Economic Development
2013	Construct a designated wilderness overnight camping facility on municipal land for long-distance hikers of the New England Scenic Trail	Capital Budget RTP	Conservation Commission
2017	Construct municipal trail upgrades that are necessary to support re-use of the former Mount Tom ski area	Capital Budget RTP	Conservation Commission DPW

# 9 Five Year Action Plan

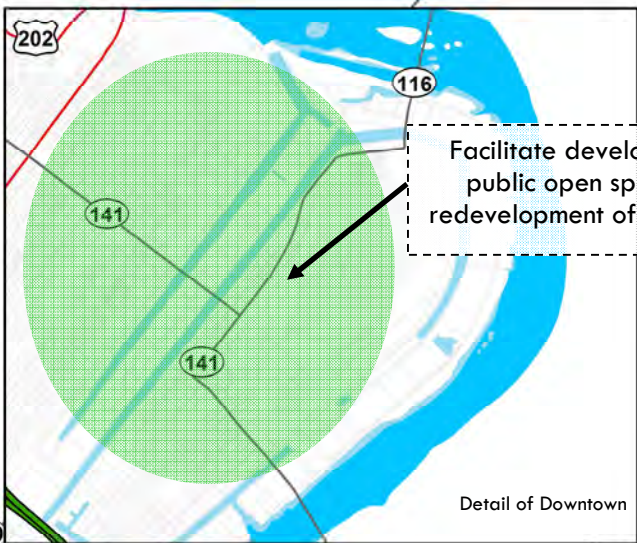
Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
2013-2015	Reach out to bird watching groups to make the annual hawk migration over Mount Tom more of an event in Holyoke, with an emphasis placed on bringing bird watching groups into contact with Holyoke businesses. Construct bird watching platform	Department Budgets General Fund LAND	Conservation Commission Planning & Economic Development Conservation Commission
Ongoing 2012-2017	Develop linkages between the City's "blueways" (the Connecticut River) and the City's greenways on Mount Tom	General Fund RTP PARC LAND	Parks and Recreation Planning & Economic Development
2017	Upgrade stormwater infrastructure in Tannery Brook Watershed to prevent localized flooding and improve habitat functions values of the Brook	MEMA Hazard Mitigation Pre-Disaster Mitigation General Fund	Conservation Commission DPW
Ongoing 2012-2017	Develop smart-phone enabled reporting applications that allow citizens and residents to report wetlands violations and complaints.	Department Budget	Conservation Commission HG&E IT
Ongoing 2012-2017	Reach out to landowners identified on the priority conservation map to create land conservation opportunities	Department Budget	Conservation Commission
2015	Make an effort to adopt the Community Preservation Act to create a specific municipal account for open space preservation, historic preservation and recreation.	General Fund Commonwealth	Conservation Commission Parks & Rec Historical Commission

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
2012-2017	Work with organizers of the Saint Patrick's Day Road Race, Great Holyoke Block Party, the Puerto Rican Day Parade to generate support and funding for pedestrian enhancements.	Private	Conservation Commission Planning & Economic Development
2015	Acquire one major priority conservation parcel in order to secure and protect existing and remaining natural resources in Holyoke	LAND General Fund	Conservation Commission
2016	Acquire/Protect with APR a significant agricultural parcel to preserve and protect the City's agricultural resources	APR Grant Program  General Fund	Conservation Commission
2016	Explore, through the school system, the possibility of linking the City's agricultural non-profits with the City's food vendor to supply Holyoke-grown food to the School Department	General Fund	Conservation Commission School Department
2013-2017	Obtain funding to implement an invasive species management plan for municipal parklands and open space, especially Log Pond Cove	Mass Environmental Trust	Conservation Commission
2012-2017	Acquire parcels along East Mountain that will preserve and protect the long-term future of the New England Scenic Trail in Holyoke.	LAND General Fund	Conservation Commission
2017	Develop a management plan for the City's forest land to establish a protocol for managing the City's resources to create and expand plant and animal habitat.	DCR Urban Forestry	Conservation Commission Water Department



# 9 Five Year Action Plan

Year	Action	Funding	Responsible Party
2017	Update Zoning Ordinance to insert surface water supply preservation language into City's zoning documents to preserve Ashley and Whitney Reservoir.	Municipal Budget	Conservation Commission Planning & Economic Development
Ongoing	Create a mechanism to support the recruitment, organization and retention of volunteers Open Space and Recreation activities, in alignment with the City's 1999 Master Plan.	Municipal Budget	Mayor's Office Planning & Economic Development
Ongoing	Support the re-use and redevelopment of the former Mt. Tom Ski properties, in partnership with the Boys & Girls' Club, the Trustees of Reservations and the US Department of Fish & Game	Private Funding Infrastructure Upgrades, as necessary	Planning & Economic Development Conservation Commission
Ongoing	Develop a strategy for resolving parking and public access needs at the entrance of Mountain Park	Municipal Budget	Planning & Economic Development Conservation Commission



Facilitate development of public open space and redevelopment of downtown.

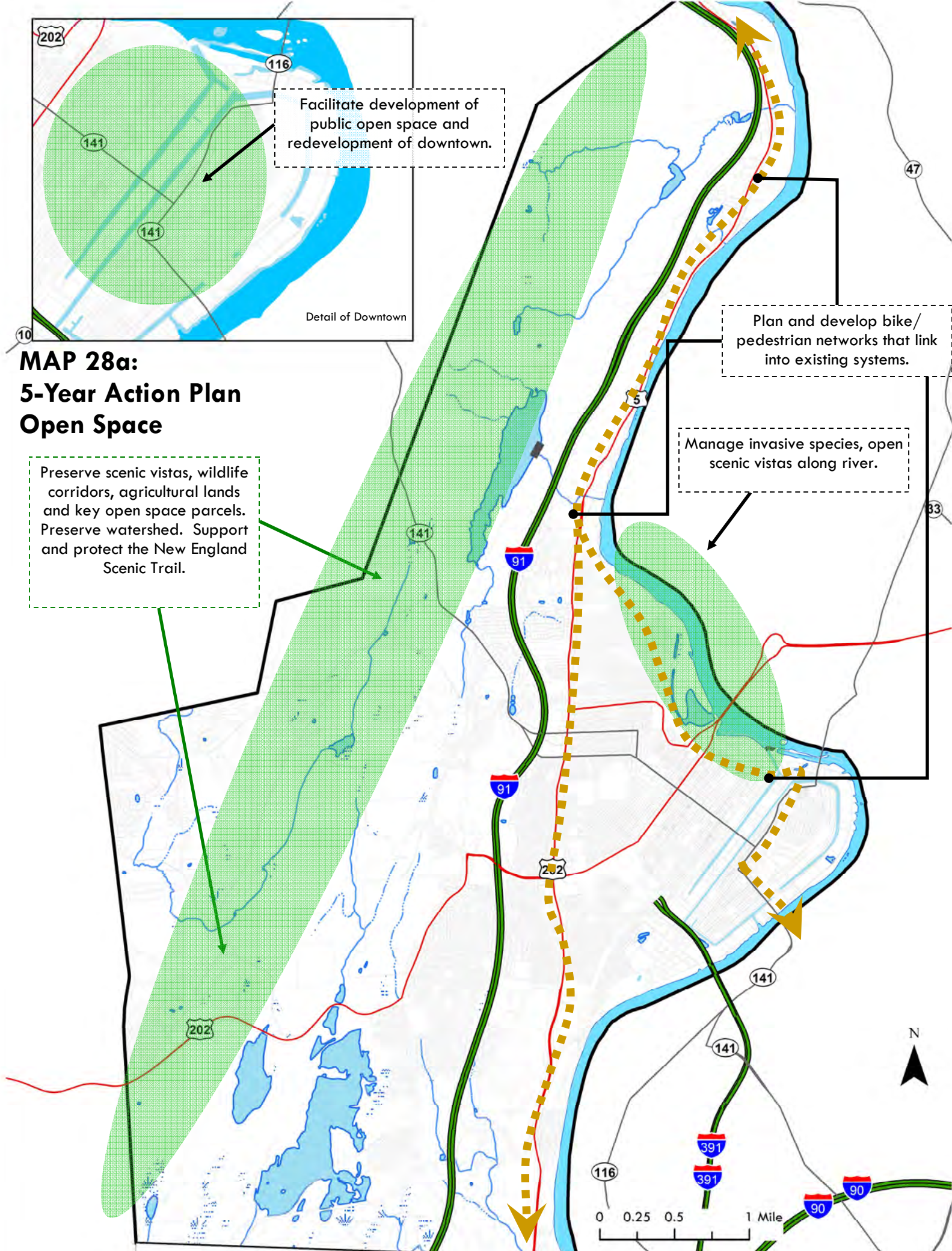
Detail of Downtown

# MAP 28a: 5-Year Action Plan Open Space

Preserve scenic vistas, wildlife corridors, agricultural lands and key open space parcels. Preserve watershed. Support and protect the New England Scenic Trail.

Plan and develop bike/pedestrian networks that link into existing systems.

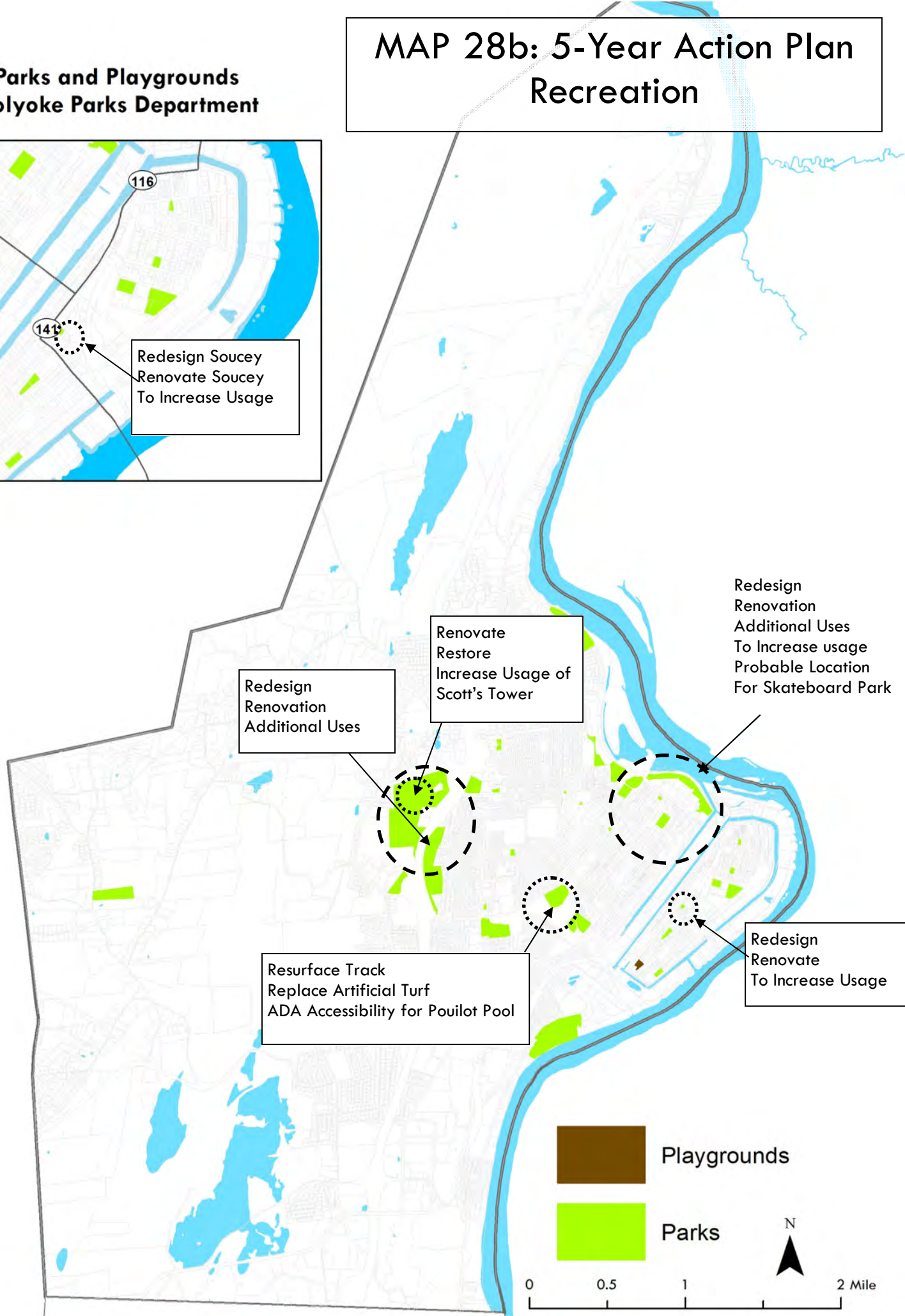
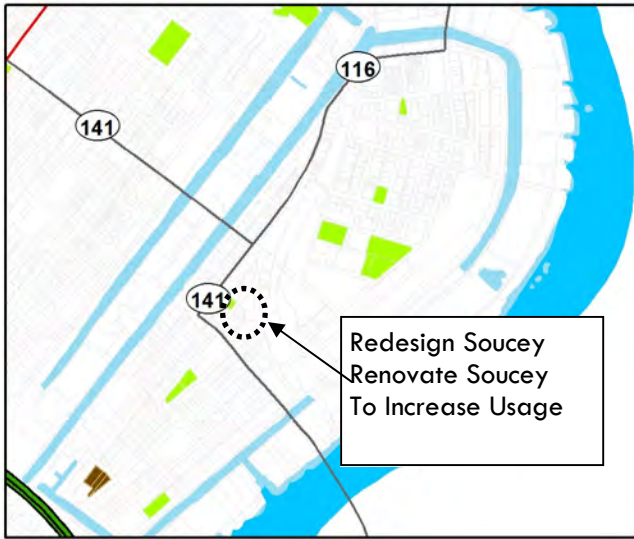
Manage invasive species, open scenic vistas along river.





# MAP 28b: 5-Year Action Plan Recreation

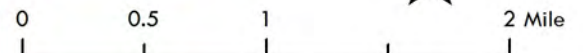
**Parks and Playgrounds  
Holyoke Parks Department**



Playgrounds



Parks



# 10 Public Comments

The 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey contained multiple opportunities for members of the public to provide open-ended responses to the following questions:

- Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)?
- Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke
- What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?
- What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?
- What type of growth pattern do you favor in Holyoke?

These questions generated over 100 pages of citizen comments and response and were reviewed and incorporated into the 2012 OSRP throughout the entire drafting process. These comments are provided, in full, in this section. For the purpose of making this document maximally useful, comments that disparaged ethnic groups or minorities, while an extremely small representation, were edited out of the final draft document.



# Appendix A

## **Appendix A: Soil Types**

The following is a list of all soil types in the City of Holyoke, with some of their characteristics. This table is derived from the *Soil Survey of Hampden County, Massachusetts: Central Part*, published by the United States Soil Conservation Service (now the Natural Resources Conservation Service) in 1978.

Slope refers to the degree of steepness of the area. Flat or virtually flat areas, such as a baseball field, have 0 - 3 % slopes. Slightly steeper areas, with slopes of 3 - 8%, provide easy walking and are inexpensive to build on. Areas with slopes between 8 and 15% can still be built on or walked over, but are somewhat more difficult. Usually roads and driveways have an absolute permitted of 15%, at the very most. Over 15% slopes are expensive to build on and can be subject to erosion, particularly if disturbed by construction. Over 25% slopes are extremely steep.

Capability class refers to the general agricultural uses to which a particular soil type may be put. While Holyoke is, in large part, not agricultural, this classification scheme gives a good idea of what a soil type can be used for, as good agricultural soils are usually good for construction purposes as well. The Soil Survey defines these classes and subclasses as follows:

“**Class I** soils have few limitations that restrict their use.

**Class II** soils have moderate limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require moderate conservation practices.

**Class III** soils have severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants, or that require special conservation practices, or both.

**Class IV** soils have very severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants, or that require very careful management, or both.

**Class V** soils are not likely to erode but have other limitations, impractical to remove, that limit their use.

**Class VI** soils have severe limitations that make them generally unsuitable for cultivation.

**Class VII** soils have very severe limitations that make them unsuitable for cultivation.

**Class VIII** soils and landforms have limitations that nearly preclude their use for commercial crop production....

The letter e shows that the main limitation is risk of erosion unless close-growing plant cover is maintained; w shows that water in or on the soil interferes with plant growth or cultivation... ; shows that the soil is limited mainly because it is shallow, droughty, or stony...”

Limitations for on-site septic disposal and frequency of flooding are general characterizations of the soil type and should not be used, for example, to say definitively that a particular parcel can never have a successful leach field or is definitely in the 100-year floodplain. Appropriate fieldwork is needed before such statements can be made about any individual parcel.

At the end of this table are lists of soil types grouped by general category, such as rocky outcrop or urban soils.

Abbr.	Soil Name	Slope	Capability Class	Limitations for on-site septic disposal	Frequency of flooding
AgA	Agawam fine sandy loam	0-3%	I	slight*	none
BaB	Belgrade silt loam	0-8%	IIw	severe	none
BgB	Broadbrook gravelly silt loam	3-8%	IIe	severe	none
BhB	Broadbrook very stony silt loam	3-8%	VI s	severe	none
BhC	Broadbrook very stony silt loam	8-15%	VI s	severe	none
BhD	Broadbrook very stony silt loam	15-25%	VI s	severe	none
BkB	Broadbrook extremely stony silt loam	3-8%	VII s	severe	none
BkC	Broadbrook extremely stony silt loam	8-15%	VII s	severe	none
CkB	Charlton fine sandy loam	3-8%	IIe	slight	none
CmB	Charlton very stony fine sandy loam	3-8%	VI s	moderate	none
CmC	Charlton very stony fine sandy loam	8-15%	VI s	moderate	none
CmD	Charlton very stony fine sandy loam	15-25%	VI s	severe	none
CnB	Charlton extremely stony fine sandy loam	3-8%	VII s	severe	none
CnC	Charlton extremely stony fine sandy loam	8-15%	VII s	severe	none
CnD	Charlton extremely stony fine sandy loam	15-25%	VII s	severe	none
COE	Charlton & Narragansett extremely stony soils	25-40%	VII s	severe	none
EdB	Eldridge loamy sand	0-6%	IIw	severe	none
EnB	Enfield silt loam	3-8%	IIe	slight*	none
EnC	Enfield silt loam	8-15%	IIIe	moderate*	none
Es	Enosburg loamy sand	0-3%	IIIw	severe	none
Ha	Hadley very fine sandy loam	0-3%	IIw	severe	common
HbA	Hadley very fine sandy loam, high bottom	0-3%	I	severe	common

Abbr.	Soil Name	Slope	Capability Class	Limitations for on-site septic disposal	Frequency of flooding
HbB	Hadley very fine sandy loam, high bottom	3-6%	Ile	severe	common
HgA	Hinckley loamy sand	0-3%	IIIs	slight*	none
HgB	Hinckley loamy sand	3-8%	IIIs	slight*	none
HgC	Hinckley loamy sand	8-15%	IVe	moderate*	none
HgD	Hinckley loamy sand	15-25%	VIIs	severe	none
HoB	Holyoke very fine sandy loam	3-8%	IIIe	severe	none
HoC	Holyoke very fine sandy loam	8-15%	IVe	severe	none
HrC	Holyoke-Rock outcrop complex	3-15%	VIIs	severe	none
Lk	Limerick silt loam	0-3%	IIIw	severe	frequent
LwB	Ludlow very stony loam	0-8%	VIIs	severe	none
LxB	Ludlow extremely stony loam	0-8%	VIIIs	severe	none
MeA	Merrimac sandy loam	0-3%	IIIs	slight*	none
MeB	Merrimac sandy loam	3-8%	IIIs	slight*	none
MeC	Merrimac sandy loam	8-15%	IIIe	moderate*	none
MeD	Merrimac sandy loam	15-25%	IVe	severe	none
Mu	Muck, deep	<1%	VIIw	severe	frequent
Mx	Muck, shallow	<1%	VIIw	severe	frequent
NbB	Narragansett very stony very fine sandy loam	3-8%	VIIs	moderate*	none
NbC	Narragansett very stony very fine sandy loam	8-15%	VIIs	moderate*	none
Ng	Ninigret fine sandy loam	0-6%	IIw	severe	none
PaB	Paxton fine sandy loam	3-8%	Ile	severe	none
PaC	Paxton fine sandy loam	8-15%	IIIe	severe	none
PcC	Paxton extremely stony fine sandy loam	8-15%	VIIIs	severe	none
Pe	Peat	<1%	VIIw	severe	frequent
Po	Podunk fine sandy loam	0-3%	IIw	severe	frequent
PuB	Pollux fine sandy loam	3-8%	Ile	severe	none
Rd	Ridgebury sandy loam	0-3%	IIIw	severe	none
ReA	Ridgebury extremely stony sandy loam	0-3%	VIIIs	severe	none
ReB	Ridgebury extremely stony sandy loam	3-8%	VIIIs	severe	none
Rf	Rock outcrop	---	VIIIs	---	none
RHD	Rock outcrop-Holyoke complex, sloping	3-25%	VIIIs	severe	none
RHE	Rock outcrop-Holyoke complex, steep	>25%	VIIIs	severe	none
Ru	Rumney fine sandy loam	0-3%	IIIw	severe	frequent
Sa	Saco Variant silt loam	0-3%	VIw	severe	frequent



Abbr.	Soil Name	Slope	Capability Class	Limitations for on-site septic disposal	Frequency of flooding
Se	Scarboro fine sandy loam	0-3%	Vw	severe	rare
SrB	Sudbury fine sandy loam	0-8%	IIw	severe	none
Su	Suncook loamy fine sand	0-5%	III <sub>s</sub>	severe	common
Ub	Urban land	---	---	---	---
UK	Urban land-Hinckley-Windsor association	0-15%	---	slight*	none
UW	Urban land-Wethersfield-Paxton association	3-25%	---	severe	none
Wa	Wareham loamy sand	0-3%	IVw	severe	none
WeB	Wethersfield fine sandy loam	3-8%	Ile	severe	none
WfC	Wethersfield very stony fine sandy loam	8-15%	VI <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WfD	Wethersfield very stony fine sandy loam	15-25%	VI <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WgB	Wethersfield extremely stony fine sandy loam	3-8%	VII <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WgC	Wethersfield extremely stony fine sandy loam	8-15%	VII <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WgD	Wethersfield extremely stony fine sandy loam	15-25%	VII <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WhA	Whitman extremely stony loam	0-3%	VII <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WnA	Windsor loamy sand	0-3%	III <sub>s</sub>	slight*	none
WnB	Windsor loamy sand	3-8%	III <sub>s</sub>	slight*	none
Wo	Winooski silt loam	0-3%	IIw	severe	common
WrB	Woodbridge fine sandy loam	3-8%	IIw	severe	none
WsB	Woodbridge very stony fine sandy loam	0-8%	VI <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WtB	Woodbridge extremely stony fine sandy loam	0-8%	VII <sub>s</sub>	severe	none
WtC	Woodbridge extremely stony fine sandy loam	8-15%	VII <sub>s</sub>	severe	none

\*Excessive permeability of this soil type may allow pollution of ground water.

## **Generalized Soil Groupings**

### **1) Urban Soils**

- Ub - Urban land
- UK - Urban land - Hinckley-Windsor association
- UW - Urban land - Wethersfield-Paxton association

### **2) Wet or Floodprone Soils**

- Ha - Hadley very fine sandy loam
- Hb - Hadley very fine sandy loam, high bottom
- Hb - Hadley very fine sandy loam, high bottom
- L - Limerick silt loam
- M - Muck, deep
- M - Muck, shallow
- P - Peat
- P - Podunk fine sandy loam
- R - Rumney fine sandy loam
- S - Saco Variant silt loam
- S - Scarboro fine sandy loam
- S - Suncook loamy fine sand
- W - Winooski silt loam

### **3) Rock Outcrops**

- HrC - Holyoke-Rock outcrop complex
- Rf - Rock outcrop
- RHD - Rock outcrop-Holyoke complex, sloping
- RHE - Rock outcrop-Holyoke complex, steep

### **4) Prime Agricultural Soils and Soils of State-wide Agricultural Importance**

- AgA (prime) - Agawam fine sandy loam
- BaB (statewide) - Belgrade silt loam
- CkB (prime) - Charlton fine sandy loam
- EdB (prime & statewide) - Eldridge loamy sand
- EnB (statewide) - Enfield silt loam
- HbA (statewide) - Hadley very fine sandy loam, high bottom
- HbB (statewide) - Hadley very fine sandy loam, high bottom
- HgA (statewide) - Hinckley loamy sand
- HgB (statewide) - Hinckley loamy sand
- HgC (statewide) - Hinckley loamy sand
- Lk (prime (when drained)) - Limerick silt loam
- LwB (statewide) - Ludlow very stony loam
- MeA (prime) - Merrimac sandy loam
- MeB (prime) - Merrimac sandy loam

- MeC (statewide) - Merrimac sandy loam
- Ng (prime) - Ninigret fine sandy loam
- PaB (prime) - Paxton fine sandy loam
- PaC (statewide) - Paxton fine sandy loam
- Po (prime) - Podunk fine sandy loam
- PuB (prime) - Pollux fine sandy loam
- Ru (prime (when drained)) - Rumney fine sandy loam
- SrB (prime) - Sudbury fine sandy loam
- WeB (prime) - Wethersfield fine sandy loam
- WfC (statewide) - Wethersfield very stony fine sandy loam
- WnA (statewide) - Windsor loamy sand
- WnB (statewide) - Windsor loamy sand
- Wo (prime) - Winooski silt loam
- WrB (prime) - Woodbridge fine sandy loam
- WsB (statewide) - Woodbridge very stony fine sandy loam

2012 OSRP Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program  
List of Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern Species

<b>Town</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>MESA Status</b>	<b>Most Recent Observation</b>
HOLYOKE	<i>Oxalis violacea</i>	Violet Wood-sorrel	E	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Panicum philadelphicum</i> ssp. <i>philadelphicum</i>	Philadelphia Panic-grass	SC	1988
HOLYOKE	<i>Rotala ramosior</i>	Toothcup	E	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum</i>	Jefferson Salamander	SC	2011
HOLYOKE	<i>Ambystoma opacum</i>	Marbled Salamander	T	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Sharp-shinned Hawk	SC	1872
HOLYOKE	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon	E	2011
HOLYOKE	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	T	2011
HOLYOKE	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	Pied-billed Grebe	E	1928
HOLYOKE	<i>Pyrrhia aurantiago</i>	Orange Sallow Moth	SC	2008
HOLYOKE	<i>Enallagma carunculatum</i>	Tule Bluet	SC	2003
HOLYOKE	<i>Gomphus abbreviatus</i>	Spine-crowned Clubtail	SC	2001
HOLYOKE	<i>Gomphus vastus</i>	Cobra Clubtail	SC	2001
HOLYOKE	<i>Gomphus ventricosus</i>	Skillet Clubtail	T	2003
HOLYOKE	<i>Neurocordulia yamaskanensis</i>	Stygian Shadowdragon	SC	2003
HOLYOKE	<i>Stylurus amnicola</i>	Riverine Clubtail	E	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	Shortnose Sturgeon	E	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Notropis bifrenatus</i>	Bridle Shiner	SC	1952
HOLYOKE	<i>Lampsilis cariosa</i>	Yellow Lampmussel	E	2007
HOLYOKE	<i>Leptodea ochracea</i>	Tidewater Mucket	SC	2005
HOLYOKE	<i>Strophitus undulatus</i>	Creeper	SC	1976
HOLYOKE	<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>	Wood Turtle	SC	1994
HOLYOKE	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>	Eastern Box Turtle	SC	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Actaea racemosa</i>	Black Cohosh	E	1980
HOLYOKE	<i>Adlumia fungosa</i>	Climbing Fumitory	SC	1988
HOLYOKE	<i>Agrimonia pubescens</i>	Hairy Agrimony	T	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Amelanchier sanguinea</i>	Roundleaf Shadbush	SC	1998
HOLYOKE	<i>Arabidopsis lyrata</i>	Lyre-leaved Rock-cress	E	1880
HOLYOKE	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	Linear-leaved Milkweed	T	2011
HOLYOKE	<i>Boechera laevigata</i>	Smooth Rock-cress	SC	2008
HOLYOKE	<i>Boechera missouriensis</i>	Green Rock-cress	T	2011
HOLYOKE	<i>Carex glaucoidea</i>	Glaucous Sedge	E	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Carex lupuliformis</i>	False Hop-sedge	E	2006
HOLYOKE	<i>Carex mesochorea</i>	Midland Sedge	E	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Celastrus scandens</i>	American Bittersweet	T	2004
HOLYOKE	<i>Clematis occidentalis</i>	Purple Clematis	SC	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Corallorhiza odontorhiza</i>	Autumn Coralroot	SC	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Cyperus houghtonii</i>	Houghton's Flatsedge	E	1989
HOLYOKE	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> ssp. <i>glauca</i>	Tufted Hairgrass	E	1987
HOLYOKE	<i>Desmodium cuspidatum</i>	Large-bracted Tick-trefoil	T	2011
HOLYOKE	<i>Doellingeria infirma</i>	Cornel-leaved Aster	E	2008
HOLYOKE	<i>Liatris scariosa</i> var. <i>novae-angliae</i>	New England Blazing Star	SC	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Lipocarpha micrantha</i>	Dwarf Bulrush	T	1998
HOLYOKE	<i>Morus rubra</i>	Red Mulberry	E	1998
HOLYOKE	<i>Oligoneuron album</i>	Upland White Aster	E	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Oxalis violacea</i>	Violet Wood-sorrel	E	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Panicum philadelphicum</i> ssp. <i>philadelphicum</i>	Philadelphia Panic-grass	SC	1988
HOLYOKE	<i>Pedicularis lanceolata</i>	Swamp Lousewort	E	1997
HOLYOKE	<i>Ranunculus pensylvanicus</i>	Bristly Buttercup	SC	1932
HOLYOKE	<i>Rotala ramosior</i>	Toothcup	E	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Sagittaria cuneata</i>	Wapato	T	1998
HOLYOKE	<i>Salix exigua</i> ssp. <i>interior</i>	Sandbar Willow	T	1985
HOLYOKE	<i>Sphenopholis nitida</i>	Shining Wedgegrass	T	2009



2012 OSRP Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program  
List of Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern Species

HOLYOKE	<i>Symphotrichum tradescantii</i>	Tradescant's Aster	T	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Trichostema brachiatum</i>	False Pennyroyal	E	2010
HOLYOKE	<i>Trisetum spicatum</i>	Spiked False Oats	E	2009
HOLYOKE	<i>Verbena simplex</i>	Narrow-leaved Vervain	E	2006
HOLYOKE	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's-root	T	1877

# Appendix B



City of Holyoke

**Press Release**  
**For Immediate Publication**  
**[insert date]**  
**For additional information:**  
**Andrew B. Smith, Conservation Director 413-322-5615**

**PLANNING THE FUTURE OF YOUR CITY'S PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

**The Holyoke Conservation Commission and Parks and Recreation Department are inviting all residents, property owners, employers and stakeholders to help us plan the future of our City's parks, recreational areas and open spaces<sup>1</sup>.**

How do you know if you are a stakeholder?

If you live in Holyoke, work in Holyoke, care about Holyoke, love Holyoke or have ideas about how Holyoke can enhance its parks and open spaces, then you are a stakeholder and we want to hear from you!

What are we asking you to do?

We are asking you to take a fifteen minute survey – before December 2, 2011 - to tell us what *you* think the City's priorities should be when it is making decisions about parks, recreational programs and open spaces. The survey can be found online at [www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com) and at municipal and community offices.

What if you don't like on-line surveys?

That's OK. Paper copies are available if you visit the Mayor, the Parks Department, the Planning Department, The Library, The Council on Aging, or the Conservation Commission. In addition paper and digital copies will be available at the Holyoke Mall, Nuestras Raices, the YMCA, Land of Providence, The Trustees of Reservations and the State DCR Offices.

How will Survey data be used?

Survey results will be used to shape and influence the goals and objectives of the 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). The OSRP functions as the Five-Year Blueprint for the management and maintenance of the City's parks, recreational programs and open spaces. It will shape which recreational activities the Parks and Recreation Department schedules and provide guidance to the Conservation Commission on which properties it should try to protect for future generations.

Will this be your only opportunity to comment?

The Survey will be one of two opportunities for you to comment. After all survey results have been compiled, open forums will be held to give community members a chance to provide us with open-ended verbal guidance on what the OSRP should address.

**The 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan is an exciting opportunity for the community of Holyoke to plan and shape the future of its parks, recreational programs and open spaces. We look forward to hearing from you!**

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<sup>1</sup> What is Open Space? Open Space consists of wildlife habitat, wetlands, forest land, mountain ranges, and farm land and ranch land.



Mayor Alex B. Morse

Conservation Commission

City of Holyoke

Andrew B. Smith

**Press Release**  
**For Immediate Publication**  
**[insert date]**  
**For additional information:**  
**Andrew B. Smith, Conservation Director 413-322-5615**

**PLANNING THE FUTURE OF YOUR CITY'S PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

The Holyoke Conservation Commission and City Councilor Gladys Lebron-Martinez are hosting a community listening session on Wednesday March 27, 2012 at 6:00 PM in the Sergeant West Community Room to solicit public input and feedback for the 2012 update to City's Open Space and Recreation Plan. This is a document that the City will use to improve parks, preserve open space, redevelop brownfields and provide recreational opportunities and programs – in short, this plan will be the City's "Green Infrastructure" plan.

To date, hundreds of Community Members have written the Conservation Commission and Parks and Recreation Department with ideas on how to plan the City's parkland, recreation areas and open space. This community listening session will serve as an opportunity to reach out to and gather input and ideas from community members who have not yet had the opportunity to submit their ideas for inclusion in the Plan.

Existing comments indicate that the Community desires public investment in active living infrastructure and local food infrastructure. The emergence of this trend indicates that the Community would like to integrate active living and community health concepts into infrastructure and recreational planning.

"This is exciting, because we are dealing with cutting edge planning," said Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse, who wanted to make sure this plan was responsive to the needs of the community.

"When planning for the future of the City, it is absolutely important that we make sure we are listening to our citizens to make sure we are providing the amenities that the people of Holyoke are looking for," Morse said.

Holyoke has a demonstrated track record of successfully implementing the ideas and concepts that are incorporated into the Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Community Field improvement project and the construction of the Jones Ferry River Access Center both stemmed from community ideas that were generated during the previous Open Space and Recreation Planning activities.

The Sargent West Community Room is located at the Corner of East Dwight Street and West Street. Light refreshments will be provided to attendees.



# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey Espanol

Ciudad de Holyoke  
2012 Espacio Abierto y el Plan de Recreación  
Encuesta sobre la Comunidad  
Su opinión cuenta!

La ciudad de Holyoke está preparando su Espacio Abierto 2012 y Actualización del Plan de Recreación. Parte del proceso de actualización consiste en solicitar la opinión de la comunidad sobre la dirección de espacio abierto (es decir, las áreas naturales) y la planificación de la recreación en la ciudad de Holyoke. Esta encuesta fue escrito para ayudar a los departamentos de la ciudad en los objetivos de desarrollo y los objetivos para el futuro, saber de usted, los residentes de la Ciudad de papel.

Lo que hace Holyoke especial para usted? Por favor, díganos lo que podemos trabajar para incorporar sus puntos de vista en la visión de la Ciudad de Espacio Abierto y planificación de la recreación.

Por favor, tome unos 10-15 minutos para completar esta encuesta en línea.

Si las encuestas en línea no son su modo preferido de participar, por favor póngase en contacto con la Comisión de Conservación en 413-322-5615 para recibir una copia en papel.

Gracias!

## Copy of page:

**1. ¿Estas familiarizado con los programas de recreación de Holyoke?**

- Si
- No

**2. ¿Usted o un miembro de su familia participa en algunas de las facilidades recreativas de la ciudad?**

- Si
- No

**3. ¿Que clases de actividades recreativas que no existen ahora le gustaría ver en la ciudad? (Por ejemplo: Lacrosse, Pesca, Patineta): Escriben por favor:**

**4. ¿Vas a otros pueblos vecinos a participar de las oportunidades recreativas que no se ofrecen en Holyoke?**

- Si
- No

## 5. Cuando participas de una actividad recreativa, ¿cómo te gustaría participar?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Al aire libre | <input type="checkbox"/> En un gimnasio                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> En pista      | <input type="checkbox"/> Complejo deportivo                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Por aceras    | <input type="checkbox"/> En el hielo                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> En el agua    | <input type="checkbox"/> No me gustan las actividades de recreativas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> En un parque  |  |

## 6. Mencione los nombres de los lugares que visita al menos una vez al año.

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Jones Point Park                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pina Park                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anniversary Field               | <input type="checkbox"/> Kennedy Park                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pouliot Pool               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avery Field                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Kenney Field                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pulaski Park               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bennett Field                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Kosciuszko Park                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Roberts Sports Complex     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bonin/Germania Park             | <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel Park                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Rohan Park                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Council on Aging                | <input type="checkbox"/> Lynch Gymnasium                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheard Park                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Field                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawrence School                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Soucey Park                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crosier Field                   | <input type="checkbox"/> McMahon School & Field                  | <input type="checkbox"/> South Chestnut Street Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dean Vocational School          | <input type="checkbox"/> McNally Field                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Springdale Park            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deroy Park                      | <input type="checkbox"/> McNulty Park                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sullivan School & Field    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ely Court                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mackenzie Stadium & John Young<br>Field | <input type="checkbox"/> Valley Arena Park          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E.N. White School               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mayer Tract                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gloutak Park                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Metcalf School Playground               | <input type="checkbox"/> Wyatt Harper Park          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gramps Park                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitchell Field                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Mount Tom                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlos Vega Park                | <input type="checkbox"/> Morgan School                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking Trails              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingleside Playground            | <input type="checkbox"/> Morgan Street Park                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Jackson Courts              | <input type="checkbox"/> Morneau Tennis Courts                   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jones Ferry River Access Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Peasants Park                           |   |

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey Espanol

## 7. Si no has usado alguna facilidad recreativa o participado en algún programa recreativo, mencione por qué no ha participado:

- Inconveniente el dia/hora
  Son muy caros  
 Mi horario es muy complicado
  No tengo transportacion  
 Me preocupa mi seguridad personal

## 8. Por favor mencione si esta familiarizado y si ha participado en los siguientes: (no todas las actividades enumeradas abajo son propiedades de la ciudad de Holyoke)

	Estoy familiarizado	He participado	Participo con frecuencia	Razones para no participar
Ashley Reservoir	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Boys & Girl Club Outdoor Facilities	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Council on Aging	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Community Field	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Cycling, Mountain	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Cycling, Road	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Dinosaur Tracks Park (The Trustees of Reservations)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
HCC Nature Trails	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Blue Sox	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Canoe Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Children's Museum	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Country Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Creative Arts Center	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Dam and Fish Lift	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Heritage State Park	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Revolver Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Urban Bike Shop	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Jones Ferry River Access Center (Holyoke Rows Boathouse)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Lynch Gymnasium	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Merry-Go-Round	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey Espanol

Mountain Park Concerts	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mt Tom State Reservation	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
New England Trail - Hiking (Formerly the M&M Trail)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Off-road Vehicle	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Pulaski Park	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Pouliot Pool	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Roberts Sports Complex	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Scott Tower	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Urban Garden Program (Nuestras Raices)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Volleyball Hall of Fame	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Whiting Street Reservoir	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Wistariahurst Museum	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Wyckoff Country Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
YMCA	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**9. Si le puedes decir a la Ciudad cómo servirte mejor, y mirándolo desde una perspectiva recreacional y de espacio abierto, ¿con cuál de las siguientes te identificarías?**

- Tenemos que conservar los bosques, fincas y el habitat de vida salvaje
- Necesitamos mas parques en los vecindarios
- Necesitamos paseos para bicicletas
- Necesitamos jardines comunitarios en mi vecindad
- No necesitamos oportunidades recreativas en mi vecindad
- No tenemos que preservar bosques, fincas ni el habitat de vida slvaje

**10. ¿De los siguientes grupos, escoja aquellos que tienen más oportunidades recreativas en Holyoke?**

	Si	No	No se
Niños pequeños	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-escolares	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
De escuela elemental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adolescentes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jovenes Adultos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adultos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ancianos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Niños con Impedimento para moverse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adultos con Impedimento para moverse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**11. Apruebas el uso de dinero federal o de la ciudad para programas de recreación y deportes para los residentes solamente?**

- Si
- No
- No se

**12. Haga una lista de actividades recreacionales y/o programas nuevos que necesitan mejoras y/o que le gustaría ver en Holyoke.**

**13. ¿Participas de alguna actividad recreativa no-motora en Holyoke? (Por ejemplo, caminar, correr bicicleta, patineta, patines)**

- So
- No

**14. ¿Apoyarías la creación de caminos de multi-usos (para bicicletas, peatones, patinaje, etc) en la Ciudad?**

- Si
- No
- No se

**15. De ser así, ¿dónde te gustaría ver estos caminos?**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Churchill        | <input type="checkbox"/> Oakdale       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Valley   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elmwood          | <input type="checkbox"/> Smith's Ferry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland Park    | <input type="checkbox"/> South Holyoke |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highlands        | <input type="checkbox"/> Springdale    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homestead Avenue | <input type="checkbox"/> The Flats     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingleside        | <input type="checkbox"/> West Holyoke  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jarvis Avenue    | <input type="checkbox"/> Whiting Farms |

## 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey Espanol

**16. ¿El acceso a frutas, carnes y vegetales cosechados localmente es importante para ti?**

- Si
- No

**17. ¿Piensas que la Ciudad debería desarrollar jardines comunitarios en las vecindades como soporte de oportunidades locales de alimento?**

- Si
- No



**18. ¿Cuál es tu lugar favorito para salir en Holyoke?**

**19. ¿Las vistas escénicas de la Ciudad (como Mount Tom, Connecticut rio) son importantes para tí?**

- Si
- No

**20. ¿Cuál es tu lugar favorito en Holyoke para enseñarle a los visitantes?**

**21. ¿Crees que la Ciudad tiene suficiente espacio abierto (por ejemplo tierra para sembrar, bosques, habitat de vida silvestre, cuerpos de agua)?**

- Si
- No

## 22. ¿Cuánto te interesa los asuntos siguientes?

	De suma importancia	Importante	No es tan importante	No me preocupa
Recursos Naturales	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Caracter Rural	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tierra para sembrar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rios limpios, quebradas, estanques	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agua de pozo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## 23. En una escala del 1-4, diga la importancia que tiene para la ciudad preservar lo siguiente (escoja hasta 4)

	1-No es tan importante	2-Importante	3-Muy Importante	4-De suma importancia
Espacios abiertos para la Conservación.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Espacios abiertos para Recreación Pasiva	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Espacios abiertos para recreación activa	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lugar de Valor Histórico	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tierra de siembra activa	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paseos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paseos con vida animal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey Espanol

## 24. Clasifique en una escala de 1-4, ¿cual escogerías para ser la prioridad en la ciudad en referencia a Espacios Abiertos? (Escoja hasta 4)

	1-No es tan importante	2-Importante	3-Muy Importante	4-De suma importancia
Acceso a ríos, quebradas, estanques	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tierra para cultivar/agricultura	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Areas para recreación activa al aire libre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Areas para educación al aire libre (areas de estudio, excursión, caminos naturales)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Areas de Valor Histórico	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Areas para recreación pasiva al aire libre (caminar, picnic, parques, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Zonas preservada entre terrenos de uso	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paseos a lo largo de quebradas, ríos y estanques de agua.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Escenas panorámicas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pozos y areas de agua suplida	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ribera	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pantanos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habitat de vida salvaje	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
La Ciudad no debería gastar dinero en espacios abiertos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Otros	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

## 25. La ciudad debería invertir en:

- Darle mantenimiento a las facilidades recreativas que estan abiertas
- Abrir nuevas facilidades recreativas
- Adquirir tierra de Reserva adicional
- Ambas tierra de Reserva y Recreativa

## 26. Entre la naturaleza y el aire libre, ¿qué es lo más importante para ti?

- Paz y tranquilidad
- Vistas escénicas
- Vida silvestre
- Caminata
- Experiencias educacionales
- Nada
- Other (please specify)

## 27. Para preservar tierra en Holyoke, enumere de lo siguiente lo que estarias dispuesto a hacer:

- Servir de voluntario en una Junta Directiva del municipio
- Donar dinero para la compra de terreno
- Donar terreno a la Ciudad
- Venderle terreno a la ciudad por un precio reducido.
- Venderle terreno a la ciudad por el valor en el mercado
- Pedirle a mi Consejal de Barrio que vote para adquirir terreno de la ciudad.
- Pagar dinero adicional en mi recibo de impuestos para crear un fondo exclusive para recreación y preservación de terrenos.

## 28. ¿Por qué decidistes vivir en Holyoke?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Es accesible a servicios   | <input type="checkbox"/> Calidad en el Sistema Escolar         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Costo de vida muy bajo     | <input type="checkbox"/> El caracter de la comunidad           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diversidad                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Oportunidades Recreativas             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oportunidades de Empleo    | <input type="checkbox"/> Actividades Recreativas al Aire Libre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Familia/ Raíces familiares | <input type="checkbox"/> Calidad de Vida                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acceso a Transportación    | <input type="checkbox"/> Servicios Públicos                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportación Pública     |  |

## 29. Género

- Masculino
- Femenino

## 30. ¿Cuánto tiempo hace que vives en Holyoke?

Anos

Meses



## 31. ¿Qué tipo de patron de crecimiento te gustaría ver en Holyoke?

- Ningún crecimiento
- Rápido crecimiento
- Crecimiento limitado a las areas ya desarrolladas.
- Promocionar crecimiento en areas no-desarrolladas.
- Otro

Other (please specify)

## 32. Edad

en años

## 33. Vivienda

- Renta
- Dueño
- Vives con familiares
- Vives con otros

## 34. ¿Cuántas acres tiene tu propiedad?

- 0
- <1
- 1-5
- 5-10
- 10-15
- 15+

## 35. ¿Cuál es tu barrio?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Churchill        | <input type="checkbox"/> Oakdale       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Valley   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elmwood          | <input type="checkbox"/> Smith's Ferry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland Park    | <input type="checkbox"/> South Holyoke |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland         | <input type="checkbox"/> The Flats     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homestead Avenue | <input type="checkbox"/> West Holyoke  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingleside        | <input type="checkbox"/> Whiting Farms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jarvis Avenue    |  |

## 36. Si estas dispuesto a participar en un comité para el uso de terrenos municipales, por favor escriba su información de contacto

Nombre:

correo electrónico

## 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey Espanol

**37. Los siguientes son objetivos que se incluyeron en el plan de Recreación conocido como el Plan 2005 de Recreación. Nos gustaría saber si todavía crees que son importantes. En una escala del 1-5, por favor diga lo siguiente:**

	5-Mas Importante	4-Muy Importante	3-Importante	2-Algo de Importancia	1-Menos Importante
Mantener en buen estado las facilidades con un buen plan exhaustivo administrativo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mejorar y desarrollar parques y facilidades recreativas en la Ciudad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expandir oportunidades recreativas dentro de la Ciudad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fomentar asociaciones que mejore las facilidades y programas recreativos de la Ciudad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Eventos para "Correr la Voz", programs y recursos.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**38. Los siguientes son objetivos que se incluyeron en el plan de Recreación conocido como el Plan 2005 de Recreación y Espacio Abierto. Nos gustaría saber si todavía crees que son importantes. En una escala del 1-5, por favor diga lo siguiente:**

	5-Mas Importante	4-Muy Importante	3-Muy Importante	2-Algo de Importancia	1-Menos Importante
Proteger los espacios abiertos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proteger los Recursos Naturales	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Preservar y proteger las reservas de agua en Holyoke	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Crear conciencia pública sobre la conservación y los recursos naturales	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Aumentar el reconocimiento de los beneficios económicos al preservar recursos naturales y espacios abiertos.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

City of Holyoke  
2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan  
Community Survey  
Your opinion COUNTS!

The City of Holyoke is preparing its 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan Update. Part of the update process involves soliciting community opinion about the direction of open space (i.e. natural areas) and recreation planning in the City of Holyoke. This survey was written to assist city departments in developing goals and objectives for the future by hearing from YOU- the residents of the Paper City.

A Commonwealth of Massachusetts-approved Open Space and Recreation Plan allows the City to apply for many different federal, state, and private grant opportunities. These grants enable the City to improve parks, preserve open space, redevelop brownfields, and provide recreational programs. The Plan is revised periodically to guide the City in protecting open space, providing recreational opportunities, planning future development, and expanding the parks system.

What makes Holyoke special to you? Please tell us so we can work to incorporate your views into the City's vision for Open Space and Recreation Planning.

Please take 10-15 minutes to complete this online survey.

If online surveys are not your preferred mode of participating, please contact the Conservation Commission at 413-322-5615 to receive a paper copy.

Thanks!

## Copy of page:

### 1. Are you familiar with Holyoke's City-Sponsored Recreational Programs?

- Yes
- No

### 2. Do you, or your family members, currently use the City's recreational facilities?

- Yes
- No

### 3. Are there types of new recreational activities would you like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.

### 4. Do you ever need to go out of town to take advantage of recreational opportunities that are not available in Holyoke?

- Yes
- No



# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

## 5. When you participate in recreational activities, where do you like to go?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> On trails          | <input type="checkbox"/> A private health club                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On my own property | <input type="checkbox"/> A sports complex                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A public park      | <input type="checkbox"/> I don't like recreational activities |

## 6. Please check facilities that you use at least once a year:

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Jones Point Park                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pina Park                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anniversary Field               | <input type="checkbox"/> Kennedy Park                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pouliot Pool               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avery Field                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Kenney Field                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Pulaski Park               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bennett Field                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Kosciuszko Park                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Roberts Sports Complex     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bonin/Germania Park             | <input type="checkbox"/> Laurel Park                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Rohan Park                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Council on Aging                | <input type="checkbox"/> Lynch Gymnasium                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheard Park                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Field                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawrence School                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Soucey Park                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crosier Field                   | <input type="checkbox"/> McMahon School & Field                  | <input type="checkbox"/> South Chestnut Street Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dean Vocational School          | <input type="checkbox"/> McNally Field                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Springdale Park            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deroy Park                      | <input type="checkbox"/> McNulty Park                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sullivan School & Field    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ely Court                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mackenzie Stadium & John Young<br>Field | <input type="checkbox"/> Valley Arena Park          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E.N. White School               | <input type="checkbox"/> Mayer Tract                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Park              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gloutak Park                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Metcalf School Playground               | <input type="checkbox"/> Wyatt Harper Park          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gramps Park                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitchell Field                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Mount Tom                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlos Vega Park                | <input type="checkbox"/> Morgan School                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking Trails              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingleside Playground            | <input type="checkbox"/> Morgan Street Park                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Jackson Courts              | <input type="checkbox"/> Morneau Tennis Courts                   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jones Ferry River Access Center | <input type="checkbox"/> Peasants Park                           |   |

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

## 7. If you have not used any City recreational facilities or programs in the past year, please tell us why:

- Inconvenient Day/Time
- My schedule is too hectic
- I have concerns about personal safety
- They're too expensive
- I lack transportation

## 8. Please indicate if you are familiar with, or have utilized, the following [please note, not all of these are City properties/activities].

	Familiar with	Used	Frequency of use	Reason for not using
Ashley Reservoir	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Boys & Girl Club Outdoor Facilities	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Council on Aging	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Community Field	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Cycling, Mountain	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Cycling, Road	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Dinosaur Tracks Park (The Trustees of Reservations)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
HCC Nature Trails	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Blue Sox	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Canoe Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Children's Museum	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Country Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Creative Arts Center	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Dam and Fish Lift	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Heritage State Park	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Revolver Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Holyoke Urban Bike Shop	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Jones Ferry River Access Center (Holyoke Rows Boathouse)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Lynch Gymnasium	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Merry-Go-Round	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

Mountain Park Concerts	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mt Tom State Reservation	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
New England Trail - Hiking (Formerly the M&M Trail)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Off-road Vehicle	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Pulaski Park	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Pouliot Pool	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Roberts Sports Complex	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Scott Tower	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Urban Garden Program (Nuestras Raices)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Volleyball Hall of Fame	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Whiting Street Reservoir	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Wistariahurst Museum	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Wyckoff Country Club	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
YMCA	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

## 9. If you could tell the City what to do to make the City better, from an open space and recreation perspective, which of the following would you say:

- We need to conserve forests, farms and wildlife habitat
- We need more neighborhood parks within walking distance of my neighborhood
- We need bike paths
- We need community gardens in my neighborhood
- We don't need any more recreational opportunities in my neighborhood
- We don't need to conserve any more forests, farms or wildlife habitat

## 10. Do you think the following groups have sufficient recreational opportunities in Holyoke?

	Yes	No	I don't know
Toddlers (1-3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-Schoolers (4-5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elementary School(5-12)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teenagers (13-18)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young Adults (18-30)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adults (30-70)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elders (70+)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children with a mobility impairment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adults with a mobility impairment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**11. Do you support the use of federal, state or city money for recreation and sports programs?**

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

**13. Do you participate in non-motorized recreational activities in Holyoke (i.e. walking, bicycling, skateboarding, rollerblading, etc.)?**

- Yes
- No

**14. Do you support the creation of new multi-use paths (bikes, pedestrians, rollerbladers, etc) in the City?**

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**15. If so, where do you think multi-use paths should be located?**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Churchill        | <input type="checkbox"/> Oakdale       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Valley   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elmwood          | <input type="checkbox"/> Smith's Ferry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland Park    | <input type="checkbox"/> South Holyoke |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highlands        | <input type="checkbox"/> Springdale    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homestead Avenue | <input type="checkbox"/> The Flats     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingleside        | <input type="checkbox"/> West Holyoke  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jarvis Avenue    | <input type="checkbox"/> Whiting Farms |



## 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

**16. Is the availability of locally grown produce important to you?**

- Yes
- No

**17. Do you think the City should work to develop neighborhood community gardens to support local food options?**

- Yes
- No

**18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

**19. Are the City's scenic views (e.g. Mount Tom, Connecticut River) important to you?**

Yes

No

**20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

**21. Do you think the City has enough open space (i.e. farm land, forests, wildlife habitat, watershed land)?**

Yes

No

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

## 22. To what extent to the following issues matter to you

	Most Important	Important	Not Important	Not my concern
Natural resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rural character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agricultural land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean rivers, streams and ponds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean groundwater	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## 23. On a scale of 1-4, how important is it for the City to preserve the following (maximum of four choices)?

	1-Somewhat Important	2-Important	3-Very Important	4-Most Important
Open space for conservation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open space for passive recreation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open space for active recreation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Places of historical value	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Active farm land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Greenbelts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife corridors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

## 24. Please rank, on a scale of 1-4, what you think should be the City's Open Space preservation priorities (maximum of four choices):

	1-Somewhat Important	2-Important	3-Very Important	4-Most Important
Access to rivers, streams and ponds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agricultural land/farmland	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Areas for active outdoor recreation (team sports)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Areas for outdoor education (study areas, field trips, nature trails, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Areas for passive outdoor recreation (walking, picnicking, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Buffer zones between different land use areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
"Green Belts" along streams, rivers and ponds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Preservation of scenic views	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Well fields and water supply areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Waterfront lands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wetlands	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife habitat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The City should not spend money on open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

## 25. The City should invest in...

- Maintaining current recreational facilities
- Developing new recreational facilities
- Acquiring additional conservation land
- Both conservation and recreation land

## 26. What about nature, or the outdoors, is important to you?

- Peace and quiet
- Scenic views
- Wildlife
- Hiking
- Educational experiences
- Nothing
- Other
- Other (please specify)

## 27. To preserve land in Holyoke, please list the following that you would be willing to do:

- Volunteer on a municipal land use board
- Donate money to buy land
- Donate land to the City, or a land trust, in order to receive a tax credit
- Sell land to the City, or a land trust, at a reduced value
- Sell land to the City, or a land trust, at a fair market value
- Encourage my City Councilor to vote for City-supported land acquisitions
- Pay extra on my tax bill to create a dedicated fund for recreation and land preservation
- Noting



## 28. Why do you choose to live in Holyoke

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Access to amenities          | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of School System        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordability                | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Character             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diversity                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational Opportunities      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job Opportunities            | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Recreational Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Family Roots          | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of Life                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Accessibility | <input type="checkbox"/> Proximity to Natural Spaces     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Transportation        |  |

## 29. Are you male or female?

- Male
- Female

## 30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?

Years

Months

## 31. What type of growth pattern do you favor for Holyoke?

- No growth
- Redevelopment of urban center
- Restricting growth to already-developed areas
- Promoting growth in undeveloped areas

Other (please specify)

## 32. What is your age?

In years

## 33. Do you...

- Rent
- Own
- Live with relatives
- Live with others

## 34. How Many Acres do You Own?

- 0
- <1
- 1-5
- 5-10
- 10-15
- 15+

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

## 35. In which Neighborhood do you Live?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Churchill        | <input type="checkbox"/> Oakdale       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown         | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Valley   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elmwood          | <input type="checkbox"/> Smith's Ferry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland Park    | <input type="checkbox"/> South Holyoke |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland         | <input type="checkbox"/> The Flats     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homestead Avenue | <input type="checkbox"/> West Holyoke  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ingleside        | <input type="checkbox"/> Whiting Farms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jarvis Avenue    |  |

## 36. If you are willing to volunteer on a municipal land use board, please provide use with your contact information:

**Name:**

**Email Address:**

# 2012 Open Space and Recreation Survey

**37. The following Recreation objectives were developed during the 2005 Open Space and Recreation Plan. We would like to know if you think they are still important. On a scale of 1-5, please rank the following:**

	5-Most Important	4-Very Important	3-Important	2-Somewhat Important	1-Least Important
Providing well-maintained facilities with a comprehensive management plan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improving and developing City recreational facilities and parks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expanding recreational opportunities within the City.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fostering partnerships to enhance the City's recreational facilities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Getting the word out about events, programs and resources.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**38. The following Open Space objectives were developed during the 2005 Open Space and Recreation Plan. We would like to know if you think they are still important. On a scale of 1-5, please rank the following:**

	5-Most Important	4-Very Important	3-Important	2-Somewhat Important	1-Least Important
Protecting open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Protecting natural resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Preserving and protecting Holyoke's drinking water supplies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting public awareness of conservation and natural resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increasing recognition of the economic benefits of preserving natural resources and open space	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



**City Councilor, Gladys Lebron-Martinez  
wants to hear your opinions  
about parks + safe outdoor spaces**



- **Wednesday March 28  
6:00 pm  
Sargent West Community Room**

**Snacks provided**

**Ideas will be added to the Open Space Plan from the Conservation Commission. Tell your representative how to spend money on making the Flats more lively and vibrant.**

**City Councilor representatives will be present along with the Director of the Conservation Commission, Nuestras Raices, and the Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council.**

**For more info: 535-1789 ext. 3**





**Concejal del Concilio Municipal, Gladys Lebrón-Martínez quiere escuchar sus opiniones sobre los parques y espacios seguros al aire libre**



▫ **Miércoles 28 Marzo  
6:00 por la tarde  
Sargent West Community Room**



**Habrà aperitivos**

**La comisión de conservación añadirá sus ideas a su plan de espacio abierto. Aconseja a su representante como la ciudad debe invertir plata en los Flats para hacer un barrio vibrante y animado.**



**Representantes de la ciudad estarán presente con el Director de la comisión de conservación, Nuestras Raices, y el Holyoke Food and Fitness Policy Council.**

**Para mas información: 535-1789 ext. 3**

**1. Are you familiar with Holyoke's City-Sponsored Recreational Programs?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		51.6%	162
No		48.4%	152
answered question			314
skipped question			6

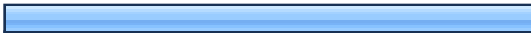

**2. Do you, or your family members, currently use the City's recreational facilities?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		57.0%	179
No		43.0%	135
answered question			314
skipped question			6





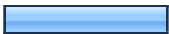

**3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

	Response Count
	200
answered question	200
skipped question	120
























**4. Do you ever need to go out of town to take advantage of recreational opportunities that are not available in Holyoke?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		79.4%	246
No		20.6%	64
<b>answered question</b>			<b>310</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>10</b>

**5. When you participate in recreational activities, where do you like to go?**





		Response Percent	Response Count
On trails		77.3%	232
On my own property		33.3%	100
A public park		74.3%	223
A private health club		30.7%	92
A sports complex		24.3%	73
I don't like recreational activities		0.7%	2
<b>answered question</b>			<b>300</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>20</b>

## 6. Please check facilities that you use at least once a year:






		Response Percent	Response Count
None		4.0%	12
Anniversary Field		13.2%	40
Avery Field		4.6%	14
Bennett Field		3.0%	9
Bonin/Germania Park		3.0%	9
Council on Aging		4.3%	13
Community Field		23.8%	72
Crosier Field		26.8%	81
Dean Vocational School		4.6%	14
Deroy Park		0.3%	1
Ely Court		0.3%	1
E.N. White School		13.6%	41
Gloutak Park		4.0%	12
Gramps Park		2.0%	6
Carlos Vega Park		2.0%	6
Ingleside Playground		1.3%	4
Jim Jackson Courts		0.3%	1
Jones Ferry River Access Center		21.9%	66
Jones Point Park		16.2%	49
Kennedy Park		20.2%	61
Kenney Field		6.0%	18
Kosciuszko Park		2.3%	7
Laurel Park		1.7%	5

Lynch Gymnasium		6.0%	18
Lawrence School		2.0%	6
McMahon School & Field		14.6%	44
McNally Field		2.3%	7
McNulty Park		2.3%	7
Mackenzie Stadium & John Young Field		16.9%	51
Mayer Tract		3.0%	9
Metcalf School Playground		3.6%	11
Mitchell Field		3.3%	10
Morgan School		2.3%	7
Morgan Street Park		2.0%	6
Morneau Tennis Courts		6.3%	19
Peasants Park		0.0%	0
Pina Park		1.0%	3
Pouliot Pool		2.0%	6
Pulaski Park		20.2%	61
Roberts Sports Complex		14.6%	44
Rohan Park		4.3%	13
Sheard Park		0.0%	0
Soucey Park		0.0%	0
South Chestnut Street Park		0.7%	2
Springdale Park		25.2%	76
Sullivan School & Field		7.6%	23
Valley Arena Park		0.3%	1
Veterans Park		26.2%	79



Wyatt Harper Park		2.0%	6
<b>Mount Tom</b>		<b>76.2%</b>	<b>230</b>
Hiking Trails		59.6%	180
Other		12.9%	39
<b>answered question</b>			<b>302</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>18</b>

**7. If you have not used any City recreational facilities or programs in the past year, please tell us why:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Inconvenient Day/Time		17.2%	16
My schedule is too hectic		43.0%	40
<b>I have concerns about personal safety</b>		<b>51.6%</b>	<b>48</b>
They're too expensive		8.6%	8
I lack transportation		5.4%	5
<b>answered question</b>			<b>93</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>227</b>

**8. Please indicate if you are familiar with, or have utilized, the following [please note, not all of properties/activities].**

**Familiar with**

	Yes	No
Ashley Reservoir	<b>92.0% (208)</b>	8.0% (18)
Boys & Girl Club Outdoor Facilities	49.0% (95)	<b>51.0% (99)</b>
Council on Aging	48.7% (94)	<b>51.3% (99)</b>
Community Field	<b>70.7% (140)</b>	29.3% (58)
Cycling, Mountain	48.6% (90)	<b>51.4% (95)</b>
Cycling, Road	<b>62.4% (113)</b>	37.6% (68)
Dinosaur Tracks Park (The Trustees of Reservations)	<b>92.3% (193)</b>	7.7% (16)
HCC Nature Trails	<b>58.2% (113)</b>	41.8% (81)
Holyoke Blue Sox	<b>80.6% (154)</b>	19.4% (37)
Holyoke Canoe Club	<b>80.1% (157)</b>	19.9% (39)
Holyoke Children's Museum	<b>93.2% (179)</b>	6.8% (13)
Holyoke Country Club	<b>75.7% (140)</b>	24.3% (45)
Holyoke Creative Arts Center	<b>67.4% (122)</b>	32.6% (59)
Holyoke Dam and Fish Lift	<b>88.3% (174)</b>	11.7% (23)
Holyoke Heritage State Park	<b>95.4% (185)</b>	4.6% (9)
Holyoke Revolver Club	40.8% (73)	<b>59.2% (106)</b>
Holyoke Urban Bike Shop	24.4% (43)	<b>75.6% (133)</b>
Jones Ferry River Access Center (Holyoke Rows Boathouse)	<b>68.3% (129)</b>	31.7% (60)
Lynch Gymnasium	<b>51.4% (92)</b>	48.6% (87)

Merry-Go-Round	<b>95.9% (187)</b>	4.1% (8)
Mountain Park Concerts	<b>89.2% (174)</b>	10.8% (21)
Mt Tom State Reservation	<b>95.8% (206)</b>	4.2% (9)
New England Trail - Hiking (Formerly the M&M Trail)	<b>57.2% (107)</b>	42.8% (80)
Off-road Vehicle	15.4% (27)	<b>84.6% (148)</b>
Pulaski Park	<b>72.6% (135)</b>	27.4% (51)
Pouliot Pool	35.1% (61)	<b>64.9% (113)</b>
Roberts Sports Complex	49.7% (88)	<b>50.3% (89)</b>
Scott Tower	<b>72.9% (140)</b>	27.1% (52)
Urban Garden Program (Nuestras Raices)	<b>73.6% (131)</b>	26.4% (47)
Volleyball Hall of Fame	<b>87.7% (164)</b>	12.3% (23)
Whiting Street Reservoir	<b>81.9% (163)</b>	18.1% (36)
Wistariahurst Museum	<b>97.9% (190)</b>	2.1% (4)
Wyckoff Country Club	<b>87.8% (166)</b>	12.2% (23)
YMCA	<b>92.3% (179)</b>	7.7% (15)

### Used

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Ashley Reservoir	<b>83.6% (178)</b>	16.4% (35)
Boys & Girl Club Outdoor Facilities	9.6% (14)	<b>90.4% (132)</b>
Council on Aging	11.7% (16)	<b>88.3% (121)</b>
Community Field	48.7% (76)	<b>51.3% (80)</b>
Cycling, Mountain	36.2% (51)	<b>63.8% (90)</b>
Cycling, Road	48.0% (71)	<b>52.0% (77)</b>

Dinosaur Tracks Park (The Trustees of Reservations)	<b>63.5% (120)</b>	36.5% (69)
HCC Nature Trails	<b>51.0% (74)</b>	49.0% (71)
Holyoke Blue Sox	<b>54.8% (91)</b>	45.2% (75)
Holyoke Canoe Club	32.7% (53)	<b>67.3% (109)</b>
Holyoke Children's Museum	<b>61.2% (104)</b>	38.8% (66)
Holyoke Country Club	35.3% (54)	<b>64.7% (99)</b>
Holyoke Creative Arts Center	21.8% (32)	<b>78.2% (115)</b>
Holyoke Dam and Fish Lift	<b>64.0% (110)</b>	36.0% (62)
Holyoke Heritage State Park	<b>81.1% (146)</b>	18.9% (34)
Holyoke Revolver Club	10.5% (14)	<b>89.5% (119)</b>
Holyoke Urban Bike Shop	12.1% (15)	<b>87.9% (109)</b>
Jones Ferry River Access Center (Holyoke Rows Boathouse)	37.4% (58)	<b>62.6% (97)</b>
Lynch Gymnasium	10.6% (14)	<b>89.4% (118)</b>
Merry-Go-Round	<b>75.1% (130)</b>	24.9% (43)
Mountain Park Concerts	36.0% (63)	<b>64.0% (112)</b>
Mt Tom State Reservation	<b>92.3% (191)</b>	7.7% (16)
New England Trail - Hiking (Formerly the M&M Trail)	<b>58.7% (91)</b>	41.3% (64)
Off-road Vehicle	8.4% (10)	<b>91.6% (109)</b>
Pulaski Park	48.0% (73)	<b>52.0% (79)</b>
Pouliot Pool	6.5% (8)	<b>93.5% (115)</b>
Roberts Sports Complex	35.3% (47)	<b>64.7% (86)</b>
Scott Tower	31.8% (48)	<b>68.2% (103)</b>
Urban Garden Program (Nuestras Raices)	29.5% (44)	<b>70.5% (105)</b>

Volleyball Hall of Fame	29.2% (45)	<b>70.8% (109)</b>
Whiting Street Reservoir	<b>64.0% (112)</b>	36.0% (63)
Wistariahurst Museum	<b>68.3% (123)</b>	31.7% (57)
Wyckoff Country Club	23.6% (38)	<b>76.4% (123)</b>
YMCA	45.3% (82)	<b>54.7% (99)</b>

### Frequency of use

	Never	1-5 times a year	5-10 times a year	10-20 times a year	20+ times a year
Ashley Reservoir	9.3% (18)	<b>42.3% (82)</b>	13.4% (26)	12.9% (25)	22.2% (44)
Boys & Girl Club Outdoor Facilities	<b>87.8% (72)</b>	4.9% (4)	4.9% (4)	1.2% (1)	1.2% (1)
Council on Aging	<b>83.6% (61)</b>	12.3% (9)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (1)	2.7% (2)
Community Field	34.3% (37)	<b>41.7% (45)</b>	6.5% (7)	4.6% (5)	13.0% (14)
Cycling, Mountain	<b>50.0% (46)</b>	20.7% (19)	15.2% (14)	6.5% (6)	7.6% (7)
Cycling, Road	<b>35.9% (37)</b>	13.6% (14)	14.6% (15)	5.8% (6)	30.1% (31)
Dinosaur Tracks Park (The Trustees of Reservations)	22.4% (32)	<b>71.3% (102)</b>	3.5% (5)	2.1% (3)	0.7% (1)
HCC Nature Trails	37.3% (41)	<b>40.0% (44)</b>	9.1% (10)	2.7% (3)	10.9% (12)
Holyoke Blue Sox	33.3% (43)	<b>60.5% (78)</b>	4.7% (6)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (2)
Holyoke Canoe Club	<b>54.5% (55)</b>	34.7% (35)	3.0% (3)	0.0% (0)	7.9% (8)
Holyoke Children's Museum	27.9% (34)	<b>61.5% (75)</b>	6.6% (8)	2.5% (3)	1.6% (2)
Holyoke Country Club	<b>50.5% (50)</b>	36.4% (36)	9.1% (9)	2.0% (2)	2.0% (2)
Holyoke Creative Arts Center	<b>65.1% (56)</b>	24.4% (21)	3.5% (3)	2.3% (2)	4.7% (4)
Holyoke Dam and Fish Lift	18.8% (24)	<b>77.3% (99)</b>	1.6% (2)	2.3% (3)	0.0% (0)
Holyoke Heritage State Park	9.6% (14)	<b>65.1% (95)</b>	17.1% (25)	3.4% (5)	4.8% (7)
Holyoke Revolver Club	<b>87.2% (68)</b>	7.7% (6)	1.3% (1)	1.3% (1)	2.6% (2)
Holyoke Urban Bike Shop	<b>79.7% (59)</b>	16.2% (12)	1.4% (1)	0.0% (0)	2.7% (2)



Jones Ferry River Access Center (Holyoke Rows Boathouse)	<b>47.5% (48)</b>	39.6% (40)	5.0% (5)	5.0% (5)	3.0% (3)
Lynch Gymnasium	<b>85.3% (64)</b>	10.7% (8)	0.0% (0)	1.3% (1)	2.7% (2)
Merry-Go-Round	13.5% (18)	<b>71.4% (95)</b>	10.5% (14)	3.8% (5)	0.8% (1)
Mountain Park Concerts	<b>48.1% (51)</b>	<b>48.1% (51)</b>	2.8% (3)	0.0% (0)	0.9% (1)
Mt Tom State Reservation	3.4% (6)	<b>45.3% (81)</b>	20.7% (37)	10.1% (18)	20.7% (37)
New England Trail - Hiking (Formerly the M&M Trail)	28.1% (34)	<b>32.2% (39)</b>	17.4% (21)	9.1% (11)	13.2% (16)
Off-road Vehicle	<b>85.9% (61)</b>	1.4% (1)	0.0% (0)	4.2% (3)	8.5% (6)
Pulaski Park	33.6% (36)	<b>51.4% (55)</b>	2.8% (3)	2.8% (3)	9.3% (10)
Pouliot Pool	<b>90.1% (64)</b>	7.0% (5)	1.4% (1)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (1)
Roberts Sports Complex	<b>53.3% (48)</b>	30.0% (27)	4.4% (4)	5.6% (5)	6.7% (6)
Scott Tower	<b>53.1% (51)</b>	31.3% (30)	8.3% (8)	1.0% (1)	6.3% (6)
Urban Garden Program (Nuestras Raices)	<b>59.0% (59)</b>	32.0% (32)	2.0% (2)	2.0% (2)	5.0% (5)
Volleyball Hall of Fame	<b>62.5% (60)</b>	36.5% (35)	0.0% (0)	1.0% (1)	0.0% (0)
Whiting Street Reservoir	22.1% (31)	<b>30.0% (42)</b>	15.7% (22)	10.7% (15)	21.4% (29)
Wistariahurst Museum	19.9% (27)	<b>64.0% (87)</b>	8.8% (12)	5.9% (8)	1.5% (2)
Wyckoff Country Club	<b>64.9% (61)</b>	24.5% (23)	4.3% (4)	2.1% (2)	4.3% (4)
YMCA	<b>42.9% (54)</b>	17.5% (22)	8.7% (11)	2.4% (3)	28.6% (36)







#### Reason for not using

	<b>None</b>	<b>Inconvenient</b>	<b>Unsafe</b>	<b>Not interested in offerings</b>	<b>Too expensive</b>
Ashley Reservoir	<b>73.5% (36)</b>	16.3% (8)	6.1% (3)	4.1% (2)	0.0% (0)
Boys & Girl Club Outdoor Facilities	<b>46.4% (52)</b>	7.1% (8)	10.7% (12)	34.8% (39)	0.9% (1)
Council on Aging	<b>51.6% (48)</b>	1.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	47.3% (44)	0.0% (0)
Community Field	<b>51.3% (39)</b>	10.5% (8)	26.3% (20)	11.8% (9)	0.0% (0)

Cycling, Mountain	<b>51.9% (40)</b>	9.1% (7)	1.3% (1)	37.7% (29)	0.0% (0)
Cycling, Road	<b>52.2% (35)</b>	4.5% (3)	23.9% (16)	19.4% (13)	0.0% (0)
Dinosaur Tracks Park (The Trustees of Reservations)	<b>47.0% (31)</b>	6.1% (4)	22.7% (15)	24.2% (16)	0.0% (0)
HCC Nature Trails	<b>66.7% (42)</b>	14.3% (9)	6.3% (4)	12.7% (8)	0.0% (0)
Holyoke Blue Sox	<b>52.3% (34)</b>	7.7% (5)	3.1% (2)	32.3% (21)	4.6% (3)
Holyoke Canoe Club	37.2% (35)	5.3% (5)	0.0% (0)	10.6% (10)	<b>46.8% (36)</b>
Holyoke Children's Museum	39.7% (29)	1.4% (1)	1.4% (1)	<b>54.8% (40)</b>	2.7% (2)
Holyoke Country Club	<b>38.8% (31)</b>	3.8% (3)	0.0% (0)	32.5% (26)	25.0% (20)
Holyoke Creative Arts Center	<b>60.0% (48)</b>	10.0% (8)	2.5% (2)	20.0% (16)	7.5% (6)
Holyoke Dam and Fish Lift	<b>66.1% (41)</b>	8.1% (5)	1.6% (1)	24.2% (15)	0.0% (0)
Holyoke Heritage State Park	<b>64.9% (24)</b>	0.0% (0)	18.9% (7)	16.2% (6)	0.0% (0)
Holyoke Revolver Club	35.4% (34)	0.0% (0)	4.2% (4)	<b>56.3% (54)</b>	4.2% (4)
Holyoke Urban Bike Shop	<b>75.7% (56)</b>	1.4% (1)	0.0% (0)	20.3% (15)	2.7% (2)
Jones Ferry River Access Center (Holyoke Rows Boathouse)	<b>60.0% (39)</b>	6.2% (4)	3.1% (2)	24.6% (16)	6.2% (4)
Lynch Gymnasium	<b>59.3% (48)</b>	3.7% (3)	2.5% (2)	34.6% (28)	0.0% (0)
Merry-Go-Round	<b>54.0% (27)</b>	2.0% (1)	4.0% (2)	40.0% (20)	0.0% (0)
Mountain Park Concerts	<b>35.2% (32)</b>	6.6% (6)	2.2% (2)	20.9% (19)	<b>35.2% (32)</b>
Mt Tom State Reservation	<b>77.8% (21)</b>	3.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	7.4% (2)	11.1% (3)
New England Trail - Hiking (Formerly the M&M Trail)	<b>78.7% (37)</b>	4.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	17.0% (8)	0.0% (0)
Off-road Vehicle	40.0% (30)	1.3% (1)	13.3% (10)	<b>42.7% (32)</b>	2.7% (2)
Pulaski Park	<b>39.7% (23)</b>	15.5% (9)	31.0% (18)	13.8% (8)	0.0% (0)
Pouliot Pool	<b>43.9% (36)</b>	6.1% (5)	19.5% (16)	30.5% (25)	0.0% (0)
Roberts Sports Complex	<b>72.9% (43)</b>	3.4% (2)	1.7% (1)	22.0% (13)	0.0% (0)

Scott Tower	30.8% (28)	2.2% (2)	<b>62.6% (57)</b>	4.4% (4)	0.0% (0)
Urban Garden Program (Nuestras Raices)	<b>56.8% (42)</b>	8.1% (6)	2.7% (2)	32.4% (24)	0.0% (0)
Volleyball Hall of Fame	30.0% (27)	5.6% (5)	0.0% (0)	<b>61.1% (55)</b>	3.3% (3)
Whiting Street Reservoir	<b>79.2% (38)</b>	8.3% (4)	4.2% (2)	8.3% (4)	0.0% (0)
Wistariahurst Museum	<b>51.1% (24)</b>	4.3% (2)	2.1% (1)	31.9% (15)	10.6% (5)
Wyckoff Country Club	19.4% (18)	1.1% (1)	0.0% (0)	<b>44.1% (41)</b>	35.5% (33)
YMCA	26.4% (23)	4.6% (4)	6.9% (6)	10.3% (9)	<b>51.7% (47)</b>
					answered question
					skipped question

**9. If you could tell the City what to do to make the City better, from an open space and recreation perspective, which of the following would you say:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
<b>We need to conserve forests, farms and wildlife habitat</b>		<b>69.0%</b>	<b>167</b>
We need more neighborhood parks within walking distance of my neighborhood		37.6%	91
We need bike paths		68.6%	166
We need community gardens in my neighborhood		36.4%	88
We don't need any more recreational opportunities in my neighborhood		4.1%	10
We don't need to conserve any more forests, farms or wildlife habitat		5.8%	14
			<b>answered question</b>
			<b>242</b>
			<b>skipped question</b>
			<b>78</b>

**10. Do you think the following groups have sufficient recreational opportunities in Holyoke?**

	Yes	No	I don't know	Response Count
Toddlers (1-3)	28.9% (70)	27.7% (67)	<b>43.4% (105)</b>	242
Pre-Schoolers (4-5)	<b>38.8% (94)</b>	22.3% (54)	<b>38.8% (94)</b>	242
Elementary School(5-12)	<b>39.1% (93)</b>	26.1% (62)	35.3% (84)	238
Teenagers (13-18)	22.8% (55)	<b>51.9% (125)</b>	26.1% (63)	241
Young Adults (18-30)	28.5% (68)	<b>49.8% (119)</b>	21.8% (52)	239
Adults (30-70)	37.1% (89)	<b>44.6% (107)</b>	18.3% (44)	240
Elders (70+)	27.2% (65)	32.2% (77)	<b>40.6% (97)</b>	239
Children with a mobility impairment	4.8% (11)	29.4% (68)	<b>65.8% (152)</b>	231
Adults with a mobility impairment	5.9% (14)	30.3% (72)	<b>63.9% (152)</b>	238
<b>answered question</b>				<b>248</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>72</b>



**11. Do you support the use of federal, state or city money for recreation and sports programs?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		<b>91.3%</b>	<b>232</b>
No		3.5%	9
I don't know		5.1%	13
<b>answered question</b>			<b>254</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>66</b>




**12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

	Response Count
	148
answered question	148
skipped question	172

**13. Do you participate in non-motorized recreational activities in Holyoke (i.e. walking, bicycling, skateboarding, rollerblading, etc.)?**

















		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		90.8%	228
No		9.2%	23
answered question			251
skipped question			69

**14. Do you support the creation of new multi-use paths (bikes, pedestrians, rollerbladers, etc) in the City?**



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		91.7%	232
No		3.2%	8
I don't know		5.1%	13
answered question			253
skipped question			67





## 15. If so, where do you think multi-use paths should be located?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Churchill		25.0%	52
Downtown		51.9%	108
Elmwood		32.7%	68
Highland Park		31.7%	66
<b>Highlands</b>		<b>53.8%</b>	<b>112</b>
Homestead Avenue		39.4%	82
Ingleside		30.8%	64
Jarvis Avenue		34.6%	72
Oakdale		31.7%	66
Rock Valley		30.3%	63
Smith's Ferry		38.0%	79
South Holyoke		32.2%	67
Springdale		33.2%	69
The Flats		31.3%	65
West Holyoke		37.5%	78
Whiting Farms		32.7%	68
<b>answered question</b>			<b>208</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>112</b>

**16. Is the availability of locally grown produce important to you?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		88.5%	224
No		11.5%	29
answered question			253
skipped question			67



**17. Do you think the City should work to develop neighborhood community gardens to support local food options?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		85.2%	213
No		14.8%	37
answered question			250
skipped question			70

**18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

	Response Count
	222
answered question	222
skipped question	98



**19. Are the City's scenic views (e.g. Mount Tom, Connecticut River) important to you?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		98.4%	250
No		1.6%	4
answered question			254
skipped question			66

**20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

		Response Count
		213
answered question		213
skipped question		107

**21. Do you think the City has enough open space (i.e. farm land, forests, wildlife habitat, watershed land)?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		49.0%	120
No		51.0%	125
answered question			245
skipped question			75

## 22. To what extent to the following issues matter to you

	Most Important	Important	Not Important	Not my concern	Response Count
Natural resources	<b>58.9% (145)</b>	38.2% (94)	2.4% (6)	0.4% (1)	246
Habitat	<b>47.9% (116)</b>	<b>47.9% (116)</b>	2.9% (7)	1.2% (3)	242
Rural character	30.1% (72)	<b>44.8% (107)</b>	21.3% (51)	3.8% (9)	239
Agricultural land	34.7% (82)	<b>47.9% (113)</b>	13.6% (32)	3.8% (9)	236
Clean rivers, streams and ponds	<b>77.0% (187)</b>	21.4% (52)	1.2% (3)	0.4% (1)	243
Clean groundwater	<b>78.1% (193)</b>	19.4% (48)	1.6% (4)	0.8% (2)	247
<b>answered question</b>					<b>248</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>72</b>

## 23. On a scale of 1-4, how important is it for the City to preserve the following (maximum of four choices)?





	1-Somewhat Important	2-Important	3-Very Important	4-Most Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Open space for conservation	<b>30.8% (44)</b>	21.0% (30)	21.7% (31)	26.6% (38)	2.44	143
Open space for passive recreation	21.1% (27)	25.8% (33)	<b>35.2% (45)</b>	18.0% (23)	2.50	128
Open space for active recreation	13.8% (19)	21.7% (30)	27.5% (38)	<b>37.0% (51)</b>	2.88	138
Places of historical value	14.0% (19)	25.0% (34)	21.3% (29)	<b>39.7% (54)</b>	2.87	136
Active farm land	<b>29.2% (26)</b>	<b>29.2% (26)</b>	23.6% (21)	18.0% (16)	2.30	89
Greenbelts	26.0% (20)	<b>33.8% (26)</b>	20.8% (16)	19.5% (15)	2.34	77
Wildlife corridors	27.9% (34)	23.8% (29)	<b>31.1% (38)</b>	17.2% (21)	2.38	122
<b>answered question</b>						<b>247</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>73</b>

**24. Please rank, on a scale of 1-4, what you think should be the City's Open Space preservation priorities (maximum of four choices):**





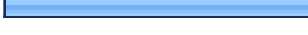


	<b>1-Somewhat Important</b>	<b>2-Important</b>	<b>3-Very Important</b>	<b>4-Most Important</b>	<b>Rating Average</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Access to rivers, streams and ponds	25.7% (26)	22.8% (23)	24.8% (25)	<b>26.7% (27)</b>	2.52	101
Agricultural land/farmland	<b>30.8% (20)</b>	23.1% (15)	20.0% (13)	26.2% (17)	2.42	65
Areas for active outdoor recreation (team sports)	13.4% (9)	17.9% (12)	<b>41.8% (28)</b>	26.9% (18)	2.82	67
Areas for outdoor education (study areas, field trips, nature trails, etc.)	12.1% (12)	<b>35.4% (35)</b>	31.3% (31)	21.2% (21)	2.62	99
Areas for passive outdoor recreation (walking, picnicking, etc.)	18.6% (26)	20.0% (28)	24.3% (34)	<b>37.1% (52)</b>	2.80	140
Buffer zones between different land use areas	35.3% (6)	<b>41.2% (7)</b>	11.8% (2)	11.8% (2)	2.00	17
"Green Belts" along streams, rivers and ponds	26.2% (16)	<b>36.1% (22)</b>	11.5% (7)	26.2% (16)	2.38	61
Preservation of scenic views	<b>34.4% (32)</b>	22.6% (21)	28.0% (26)	15.1% (14)	2.24	93
Well fields and water supply areas	22.5% (9)	20.0% (8)	<b>30.0% (12)</b>	27.5% (11)	2.63	40
Waterfront lands	17.2% (5)	<b>41.4% (12)</b>	20.7% (6)	20.7% (6)	2.45	29
Wetlands	19.4% (6)	29.0% (9)	<b>41.9% (13)</b>	9.7% (3)	2.42	31
Wildlife habitat	<b>29.9% (20)</b>	22.4% (15)	17.9% (12)	<b>29.9% (20)</b>	2.48	67
The City should not spend money on open space	25.0% (4)	6.3% (1)	<b>37.5% (6)</b>	31.3% (5)	2.75	16
Other	0.0% (0)	14.3% (1)	0.0% (0)	<b>85.7% (6)</b>	3.71	7
				Other (please specify)		11
<b>answered question</b>						<b>235</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>85</b>











## 25. The City should invest in...

		Response Percent	Response Count
Maintaining current recreational facilities		34.3%	82
Developing new recreational facilities		16.7%	40
Acquiring additional conservation land		6.3%	15
<b>Both conservation and recreation land</b>		<b>42.7%</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>answered question</b>			<b>239</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>81</b>

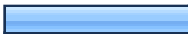












## 26. What about nature, or the outdoors, is important to you?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Peace and quiet		75.1%	184
<b>Scenic views</b>		<b>79.6%</b>	<b>195</b>
Wildlife		65.3%	160
Hiking		68.6%	168
Educational experiences		45.7%	112
Nothing		0.4%	1
Other		0.0%	0
Other (please specify)		5.7%	14
<b>answered question</b>			<b>245</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>75</b>



**27. To preserve land in Holyoke, please list the following that you would be willing to do:**

		<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Volunteer on a municipal land use board		48.4%	109
Donate money to buy land		16.4%	37
Donate land to the City, or a land trust, in order to receive a tax credit		5.3%	12
Sell land to the City, or a land trust, at a reduced value		2.2%	5
Sell land to the City, or a land trust, at a fair market value		1.8%	4
<b>Encourage my City Councilor to vote for City-supported land acquisitions</b>		<b>71.6%</b>	<b>161</b>
Pay extra on my tax bill to create a dedicated fund for recreation and land preservation		39.6%	89
Noting		10.2%	23
<b>answered question</b>			<b>225</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>95</b>

## 28. Why do you choose to live in Holyoke

		Response Percent	Response Count
Access to amenities		27.2%	61
<b>Affordability</b>		<b>59.4%</b>	<b>133</b>
Diversity		39.7%	89
Job Opportunities		11.6%	26
Family/Family Roots		58.9%	132
Transportation Accessibility		12.1%	27
Public Transportation		5.8%	13
Quality of School System		6.3%	14
Community Character		38.8%	87
Recreational Opportunities		8.0%	18
Outdoor Recreational Activities		20.5%	46
Quality of Life		25.4%	57
Proximity to Natural Spaces		30.4%	68
<b>answered question</b>			<b>224</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>96</b>


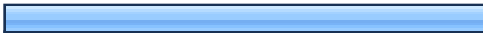


## 29. Are you male or female?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Male		44.8%	107
<b>Female</b>		<b>55.2%</b>	<b>132</b>
<b>answered question</b>			<b>239</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>81</b>

### 30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?

		Response Average	Response Total	Response Count
Years		25.15	5,584	222
Months		10.97	1,119	102
answered question				226
skipped question				94





### 31. What type of growth pattern do you favor for Holyoke?

		Response Percent	Response Count	
No growth		1.3%	3	
Redevelopment of urban center		72.2%	164	
Restricting growth to already-developed areas		13.7%	31	
Promoting growth in undeveloped areas		12.8%	29	
Other (please specify)			15	
answered question				227
skipped question				93

### 32. What is your age?

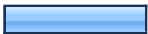




	Response Average	Response Total	Response Count
In years	43.73	10,277	235
answered question			235
skipped question			85

### 33. Do you...















	Response Percent	Response Count
Rent 	16.5%	39
Own 	75.8%	179
Live with relatives 	5.5%	13
Live with others 	2.1%	5
answered question		236
skipped question		84





### 34. How Many Acres do You Own?

		Response Percent	Response Count
0		21.0%	47
<1		<b>66.5%</b>	<b>149</b>
1-5		11.2%	25
5-10		0.9%	2
10-15		0.0%	0
15+		0.4%	1
<b>answered question</b>			<b>224</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>96</b>

### 35. In which Neighborhood do you Live?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Churchill		1.8%	4
Downtown		10.0%	22
Elmwood		11.9%	26
Highland Park		2.3%	5
<b>Highland</b>		<b>29.7%</b>	<b>65</b>
Homestead Avenue		12.8%	28
Ingleside		2.7%	6
Jarvis Avenue		3.7%	8
Oakdale		14.2%	31
Rock Valley		1.8%	4
Smith's Ferry		0.0%	0
South Holyoke		0.9%	2
The Flats		1.4%	3
West Holyoke		7.8%	17
Whiting Farms		0.9%	2
<b>answered question</b>			<b>219</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>101</b>

**36. If you are willing to volunteer on a municipal land use board, please provide use with your contact information:**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Name:		98.6%	69
Email Address:		100.0%	70
<b>answered question</b>			<b>70</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>250</b>

**37. The following Recreation objectives were developed during the 2005 Open Space and Recreation Plan. We would like to know if you think they are still important. On a scale of 1-5, please rank the following:**

	5-Most Important	4-Very Important	3-Important	2-Somewhat Important	1-Least Important	Rating Average	Response Count
Providing well-maintained facilities with a comprehensive management plan.	<b>36.3%</b> <b>(66)</b>	26.9% (49)	17.0% (31)	9.3% (17)	10.4% (19)	3.69	181
Improving and developing City recreational facilities and parks.	30.2% (57)	<b>32.8%</b> <b>(62)</b>	22.2% (42)	14.3% (27)	1.1% (2)	3.78	181
Expanding recreational opportunities within the City.	11.3% (20)	14.1% (25)	<b>32.2%</b> <b>(57)</b>	21.5% (38)	20.9% (37)	2.73	171
Fostering partnerships to enhance the City's recreational facilities.	9.6% (17)	15.2% (27)	18.0% (32)	<b>28.7%</b> <b>(51)</b>	<b>28.7%</b> <b>(51)</b>	2.48	171
Getting the word out about events, programs and resources.	<b>23.1%</b> <b>(43)</b>	19.9% (37)	15.1% (28)	20.4% (38)	21.5% (40)	3.03	181
<b>answered question</b>							<b>210</b>
<b>skipped question</b>							<b>100</b>

**38. The following Open Space objectives were developed during the 2005 Open Space and Recreation Plan. We would like to know if you think they are still important. On a scale of 1-5, please rank the following:**

	<b>5-Most Important</b>	<b>4-Very Important</b>	<b>3-Important</b>	<b>2-Somewhat Important</b>	<b>1-Least Important</b>	<b>Rating Average</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Protecting open space	<b>24.3% (46)</b>	15.9% (30)	22.2% (42)	21.7% (41)	15.9% (30)	3.11	188
Protecting natural resources	18.6% (34)	<b>39.3% (72)</b>	25.7% (47)	12.6% (23)	3.8% (7)	3.56	188
Preserving and protecting Holyoke's drinking water supplies	<b>51.0% (100)</b>	18.9% (37)	20.4% (40)	5.6% (11)	4.1% (8)	4.07	191
Promoting public awareness of conservation and natural resources	8.2% (15)	17.4% (32)	19.0% (35)	<b>32.6% (60)</b>	22.8% (42)	2.55	188
Increasing recognition of the economic benefits of preserving natural resources and open space	6.6% (12)	15.3% (28)	15.8% (29)	23.0% (42)	<b>39.3% (72)</b>	2.27	188
<b>answered question</b>							<b>210</b>
<b>skipped question</b>							<b>10</b>





**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

1	Dog park	Apr 6, 2012 4:16 AM
2	Bike/walk path along the river	Mar 28, 2012 3:58 PM
3	Scott's tower clean up	Mar 24, 2012 4:53 AM
4	Swimming, bike paths	Mar 11, 2012 7:07 AM
5	Skateboarding	Jan 23, 2012 8:20 AM
6	skyng, swimming, picknick areas	Jan 23, 2012 6:56 AM
7	Fishing and Skateboarding	Jan 15, 2012 8:17 PM
8	more activities on the river, especially at Springdale park, organized activities for seniors and those with disabilities. A skateboard park has been needed for years. The downtown parks that are needed and used by many families need to be totally refurbished with equipment that will be used by mixed aged groups	Jan 12, 2012 3:35 PM
9	Skateboarding- I would welcome just about anything	Jan 12, 2012 11:49 AM
10	Skate park! I was talking with some kids at Avery Field this past summer and they had some great ideas about how to make the park more "adolescent-friendly." The kids basically complained that, since there isn't much for the older kids to do at the park (just half-court basketball and the baseball field), the older kids wind up the swings and chase the smaller kids around the play area. They also said they'd be interested in "wellness stations" placed around the park--places to do pull-ups or other fitness activities. These guys were about 13, but it sounded like they would be willing to help build the facilities--especially if they were able to be part of the design. Additionally, neighborhood buy-in will help ensure that any new fixtures stay kept up.	Jan 11, 2012 6:09 PM
11	Fishing and skateboarding	Jan 10, 2012 12:18 PM
12	Bring back Skiing! Bike paths	Jan 10, 2012 10:30 AM
13	skateboarding, bike path, kid's basketball,	Jan 9, 2012 7:19 PM
14	- Dog park, which includes a separate area for small dogs, under 25 lbs. -More public tennis courts	Jan 9, 2012 1:29 PM
15	Bike lanes around the city, fishing.	Jan 9, 2012 7:16 AM
16	Fishing	Jan 8, 2012 2:23 PM
17	fishing in resevoir	Jan 8, 2012 10:15 AM
18	Bike Trails for commuting and recreation	Jan 7, 2012 7:58 AM
19	Canal walk once. Fish ladder 2 dz times.	Jan 5, 2012 6:39 PM
20	Lacrosse, ultimate frisbee	Jan 5, 2012 9:18 AM

**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

21	hiking trails, nature trails, bike paths, science parks	Jan 5, 2012 6:35 AM
22	ice skating in the winter again!!!, fishing, skateboarding or a bike path would be very nice	Jan 4, 2012 2:44 PM
23	Indoor Soccer, Frisbee Golf	Jan 4, 2012 10:53 AM
24	ski area & casinos	Jan 4, 2012 8:26 AM
25	skateboarding and more basketball courts	Jan 4, 2012 7:13 AM
26	skateboarding, winter activities	Jan 2, 2012 1:30 PM
27	Ice-Skating, Fishing, Floor Hockey	Jan 2, 2012 12:10 PM
28	Running club	Jan 1, 2012 10:28 AM
29	Maybe a place to go canoeing or sailing on little boats that kids and grown-ups can learn in? Maybe cross-country ski trails (though maybe these exist already)--we are only thinking about skiing, but don't yet have skis.	Dec 31, 2011 12:10 PM
30	skateboarding bike paths	Dec 31, 2011 9:59 AM
31	Fishing, swimming, water spray park, updated playground equipment	Dec 30, 2011 4:39 PM
32	theatre	Dec 30, 2011 3:03 PM
33	fishing sounds good	Dec 30, 2011 1:04 PM
34	Frisbee Golf	Dec 30, 2011 12:58 PM
35	Bicycling. Outdoor ice skating. Rollerblading.	Dec 30, 2011 12:01 PM
36	Make use of Mt. Tom	Dec 30, 2011 11:28 AM
37	access to hiking areas via bus	Dec 30, 2011 10:55 AM
38	indoor pool (lap) swimming year-round; close streets to traffic downtown on Sundays for roller-blading, roller-skating, running and biking.	Dec 30, 2011 10:39 AM
39	All the above, plus bike routes.	Dec 30, 2011 8:20 AM
40	Dog park and SAFE walking trails	Dec 30, 2011 7:56 AM
41	-climbing and playing areas for teens and preteens -skateboarding -walking trails or paved walking paths	Dec 28, 2011 2:52 PM
42	Sakteboard park, more water parks and playgrounds in downtown	Dec 27, 2011 10:30 AM
43	fishing areas, more community gardens	Dec 26, 2011 7:36 AM
44	Recreational soccer or volleyball	Dec 25, 2011 6:57 PM

**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

45	a doggie park where community pool used to be	Dec 25, 2011 1:24 AM
46	Public swimming and canoeing facilities, perhaps at the old Whiting Street Reservoir.	Dec 23, 2011 5:42 PM
47	car racing	Dec 22, 2011 6:01 AM
48	fishing, indoor soccer	Dec 21, 2011 1:32 PM
49	open night park, where you could have open fire pit areas to bring your kids for smores ect., or on weekend you could let teen kids hang out.	Dec 21, 2011 12:41 PM
50	skateboarding lacrosse	Dec 21, 2011 10:56 AM
51	Birding/fishing along the river Community gardening Dog park Horse trails	Dec 20, 2011 7:19 PM
52	Fishing, hiking, bike trail, more access to river recreation	Dec 19, 2011 7:32 AM
53	safe place to walk dogs off leash	Dec 19, 2011 5:11 AM
54	snowmobiles hicking	Dec 18, 2011 5:20 PM
55	skate boarding, off road vehicles mountain bikeing.	Dec 18, 2011 2:45 PM
56	Off road vehicles atv,dirt bike,snowmobile mountian bikeing, hikeing.	Dec 18, 2011 1:58 PM
57	track, and running field	Dec 18, 2011 10:53 AM
58	Outdoor Volleyball Courts: Fishing (regulated and catch and release only)	Dec 18, 2011 7:34 AM
59	Swimming, ice skating in parks, parks with scenic, sweeping, views of Connecticut River, more basket ball courts, paddle boats on lakes, bike trails, covered picnic areas, sledding hills	Dec 18, 2011 5:50 AM
60	There's already one at HCC but another disc golf course somewhere in the city of Holyoke would be nice. Also, revive some of the parks downtown like Holyoke Heritage which used to have a lot of events and doesn't seem to have that many anymore..	Dec 17, 2011 6:41 PM
61	indoor track	Dec 17, 2011 2:22 PM
62	Fishing, Skateboarding, sledding and running.	Dec 17, 2011 9:51 AM
63	Skateboarding	Dec 16, 2011 6:58 PM
64	more opportunities for adults to do crew- I work until 5pm and it would be nice in the summer to be able to do it in the evening.	Dec 16, 2011 2:53 PM
65	Fishing tournament at the Whiting reservoir as there was one other time. It was very well received and were many , many kids even on a rainy day. All prizes and food were donated	Dec 16, 2011 8:37 AM
66	Fishing at springdale park or some other venue would be a great thing. We just	Dec 16, 2011 8:29 AM

**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

	have the Holyoke water power tournament.	
67	Running paths	Dec 16, 2011 8:18 AM
68	bike paths	Dec 16, 2011 8:00 AM
69	fishing at the reservoirs	Dec 16, 2011 7:54 AM
70	Ice skating, cross-country skiing	Dec 16, 2011 6:56 AM
71	Fishing	Dec 16, 2011 6:47 AM
72	dog parks	Dec 16, 2011 6:28 AM
73	Recreational walks (birdwatching, nature involvement) on the "Island" alongside the Conn. River just north of the Muller bridge. Bike paths (off the Highways)	Dec 16, 2011 5:08 AM
74	Bocce courts	Dec 16, 2011 4:14 AM
75	Walking nature path and trails.	Dec 16, 2011 3:51 AM
76	lacrosse, skateboarding, swimming, recreational slides and swings	Dec 15, 2011 8:43 PM
77	fishing	Dec 15, 2011 8:08 PM
78	Outdoor Hockey	Dec 15, 2011 7:55 PM
79	Fishing hunting and safe place for our kids to skate board	Dec 15, 2011 5:34 PM
80	Volleyball! We are the birthplace, after all. A Skate Park would be awesome for our youth. Arial Ropes Course. Maybe on Mt. Tom?	Dec 15, 2011 5:32 PM
81	fishing, rides, skydiving, parachuting, roller skating	Dec 15, 2011 5:04 PM
82	Bicycle path	Dec 15, 2011 3:13 PM
83	basketball	Dec 15, 2011 3:04 PM
84	skiing	Dec 15, 2011 2:58 PM
85	We need a great skateboarding park for the entire family	Dec 15, 2011 2:23 PM
86	Ice skating	Dec 15, 2011 2:16 PM
87	picnic areas	Dec 15, 2011 2:14 PM
88	indoor soccer	Dec 15, 2011 1:18 PM
89	Fishing, Bike paths,	Dec 15, 2011 12:26 PM
90	Ice skating, roller skating, paddle boats, picnic area with childrens' activities, etc.	Dec 15, 2011 10:56 AM
91	adult pickup lacrosse	Dec 15, 2011 10:41 AM

**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

92	Fishing	Dec 15, 2011 10:19 AM
93	more fishing, more exercise facilities open to the public and possibly skateboarding. We have tons of freshwater brooks that hold GRADE A brook trout that should be shown as an attraction/conservation opportunity.	Dec 15, 2011 10:13 AM
94	a riverfront park with a picnic area, place for fishing, and boat ramp would be nice.	Dec 15, 2011 10:05 AM
95	Fishing, but I am aware that there are no ponds or streams in Holyoke large enough for fishing except possibly the reserviors which are now off limits for that activity.	Dec 15, 2011 9:46 AM
96	Fishing ,Ponds with ducks	Dec 15, 2011 9:45 AM
97	no	Dec 15, 2011 9:37 AM
98	canoe kayak, Veteran Park activies ie. Crush Block Party, Memorial Day Ceremony, walking in parks	Dec 15, 2011 9:30 AM
99	improved bike lanes and pedestrian crossing lanes	Dec 15, 2011 9:07 AM
100	Tennis leagues Night tennis (with lights) Ski/Snowboard groups/meetups Art Classes - painting classes	Dec 15, 2011 8:39 AM
101	Dog park, more bike lanes	Dec 15, 2011 8:15 AM
102	Birding walks, owl walks, guided star watching, boating safety instruction	Dec 15, 2011 8:14 AM
103	DOG PARK	Dec 15, 2011 8:07 AM
104	swimming, golf, tennis for k-6	Dec 15, 2011 7:54 AM
105	fishing	Dec 15, 2011 7:50 AM
106	We had volleyball when I was a kid and it was a great program.	Dec 15, 2011 7:49 AM
107	Safe place to go Fishing from shore	Dec 15, 2011 7:46 AM
108	ice skating,sledding, public tracks for walking or jogging, biking trails, picnic spots ( like Nonotuck Park in Easthampton).	Dec 15, 2011 7:37 AM
109	more continuous non road bike paths, adult soccer teams, ciclovía,	Dec 15, 2011 7:32 AM
110	bike paths	Dec 15, 2011 7:30 AM
111	Yes as many as possible, but at the very least volleyball.	Dec 15, 2011 7:27 AM
112	Fishing and Scott Tower re-open for Hiking, MT Tom Skiing	Dec 15, 2011 7:13 AM
113	Fishing	Dec 15, 2011 7:09 AM
114	Biking trails, hiking trails (outside of MT TOM), anything else outdoors!	Dec 15, 2011 7:07 AM

**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

115	X Country Skiing , Skateboarding , mountain biking	Dec 15, 2011 7:06 AM
116	skate/bmx area, more adult for fun programs, community run performance space	Dec 15, 2011 7:01 AM
117	skateboarding carnivals fair	Dec 14, 2011 8:42 PM
118	bicycle trail	Dec 14, 2011 9:52 AM
119	Outdoor ice skating	Dec 13, 2011 1:40 PM
120	would like to see an outdoor ice rink that is taken care of to ice skate and play hockey on so i wouldn't have to wait as long for larger ponds to freeze.	Dec 13, 2011 11:20 AM
121	Dog Walking	Dec 13, 2011 7:57 AM
122	Lacrosse, kickball, tennis, biking, dog park	Dec 13, 2011 7:09 AM
123	Adult Art Programs as well as exhibits (ie The Armand Hammer Exhibit that was held several years ago...the \$\$\$ was supposed to go to the renovation of the Victory Theatre)	Dec 12, 2011 3:24 PM
124	adult basketball league	Dec 12, 2011 1:02 PM
125	Ice Skating, Hiking, Skiing (cross country), Snowshoeing, Roller Skating	Dec 12, 2011 10:42 AM
126	Lacrosse, youth track?	Dec 12, 2011 8:57 AM
127	fishing, roller skating, ice skating, sledding, skiing	Dec 12, 2011 7:15 AM
128	Dog Park (large area, off-leash)	Dec 9, 2011 11:52 AM
129	Dog park	Dec 9, 2011 5:40 AM
130	sking, skateboarding, lacrosse,dog parks	Dec 8, 2011 7:49 PM
131	Bike path	Dec 8, 2011 7:42 PM
132	skateboarding	Dec 8, 2011 6:51 PM
133	A skate park, outdoor public skating, youth soccer for 3-4 year olds, tennis for 3-5 yr olds, a dog park, A BIKE PATH CONNECTING TO THE BIKE PATHS IN EASTHAMPTON AND NORTHAMPTON.	Dec 8, 2011 6:38 PM
134	Bike Path near route five,	Dec 8, 2011 5:58 PM
135	build out the Canal Walk. 15+ years and a few hundred yards is simply lame.	Dec 8, 2011 5:36 PM
136	mountain bike trails	Dec 8, 2011 4:59 PM
137	Zumba	Dec 8, 2011 4:39 PM
138	skiing	Dec 8, 2011 4:08 PM



**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

139	skateboarding, teen centers in different districts that will allow shows (plays, music) for the teens.	Dec 8, 2011 3:52 PM
140	Zumba	Dec 8, 2011 3:48 PM
141	skiing, ice skating	Dec 8, 2011 1:12 PM
142	Skateboarding, swimming, skiing	Dec 8, 2011 12:31 PM
143	Lacrosse Fishing (ashley)	Dec 8, 2011 10:39 AM
144	bike path	Dec 8, 2011 9:31 AM
145	Rock Climbing	Dec 8, 2011 9:27 AM
146	motorcycle racing	Dec 8, 2011 5:35 AM
147	Bike trail and fishing at Ashley Reservoir	Dec 7, 2011 1:57 PM
148	swimming in the river, skateboarding, dinosaur garden	Dec 7, 2011 12:19 PM
149	More winter programming	Dec 6, 2011 1:31 PM
150	Camping; skateboarding...	Dec 6, 2011 9:22 AM
151	Fishing	Dec 6, 2011 7:40 AM
152	Volleyball!	Dec 6, 2011 6:13 AM
153	bike path	Dec 6, 2011 6:00 AM
154	skateboard park	Dec 6, 2011 5:41 AM
155	Skateboarding park, roll blade, lacrosse	Dec 5, 2011 8:34 PM
156	Bring back ice skating.	Dec 5, 2011 6:34 PM
157	Skateboarding Fishing	Dec 5, 2011 5:54 PM
158	fishing area for handicap	Dec 5, 2011 9:01 AM
159	swimming dog park ice skating longer walking/running path along river-- preferably dirt, not pavement	Dec 5, 2011 8:47 AM
160	bike trails	Dec 5, 2011 8:15 AM
161	off leash dog friendly park	Dec 5, 2011 8:09 AM
162	It'd be nice to see more outdoor activities such as a skateboarding park, outdoor mini-golf, bike track	Dec 5, 2011 7:58 AM
163	ice skating downtown; kayaking on a limited portion of the canals; yes to a skate park; pocket parks for downtown residents	Dec 5, 2011 7:05 AM

**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

164	lacross for girls, skiing, dog park	Dec 5, 2011 6:41 AM
165	Skateboarding because, all other towns have a small skate park for youth and it would prevent distruction of city property.	Dec 4, 2011 7:18 AM
166	more protected open space accessible to downtown residents	Dec 2, 2011 8:25 PM
167	check the grammar	Dec 2, 2011 2:29 PM
168	Skateboarding	Dec 2, 2011 1:49 PM
169	Indoor batting cages/soccer	Dec 2, 2011 1:23 PM
170	Bike trail (not in the road), fishing, swimming pools, Teen center for young teen 11-15ish	Dec 2, 2011 1:06 PM
171	Music	Dec 2, 2011 10:38 AM
172	Snowshoeing	Dec 1, 2011 8:01 PM
173	Touch Football program for children in grades K-8. This is a program that many surrounding communities have.	Dec 1, 2011 12:40 PM
174	fishing skiing	Dec 1, 2011 12:09 PM
175	More river access near downtown perhaps even a new park on the river. Jones ferry is great but not convenient for those without a car.	Dec 1, 2011 6:51 AM
176	Skateboarding, waking groups in the lower areas of Holyoke	Nov 30, 2011 7:29 PM
177	More activities and sports geared toward the youth in the city. Also more affordable city sponsored activities and sports for low and moderate income people, especially those with more than one child, which makes it difficult to participate in some activities including city sports due to lack of fundss.	Nov 29, 2011 7:59 PM
178	fishing	Nov 29, 2011 7:47 PM
179	swimming	Nov 29, 2011 5:15 PM
180	Bike trail	Nov 29, 2011 3:56 PM
181	Public volleyball nets rock climbing walls - ropes courses	Nov 29, 2011 3:50 PM
182	skateboarding, fishing	Nov 29, 2011 2:03 PM
183	During winter places to play basketball, hand ball park	Nov 29, 2011 1:33 PM
184	Skateboarding and a BMX park	Nov 29, 2011 1:05 PM
185	skateboarding, downhill skiing at Mt Tom, cross country skiing at Mt Tom, picnic areas with cooking area, movie nights, neighborhood events	Nov 29, 2011 11:51 AM
186	As an avid cyclist, I would like to see a more extensive system for bicycle lanes,	Nov 29, 2011 10:44 AM

**Page 2, Q3. Are there types of new recreational activities you would like to see that do not exist in the City (i.e. Lacrosse, Fishing, Skateboarding)? If yes, please list below.**

	or a bike trails similar to the Manhan rail trail.	
187	skateboarding, skiing (trips)	Nov 29, 2011 9:42 AM
188	Fishing	Nov 29, 2011 9:38 AM
189	Places and activites for children aged 13 yrs and older.	Nov 29, 2011 9:31 AM
190	Biking and more things for kids.	Nov 29, 2011 9:22 AM
191	Fishing, safe running paths	Nov 29, 2011 9:20 AM
192	A Skateboarding park	Nov 29, 2011 9:00 AM
193	Lacrosse, Skateboard Park	Nov 29, 2011 8:48 AM
194	Lacrosse, bocce, fishing, connect to bike trail	Nov 29, 2011 8:29 AM
195	swimming for the public in the school pools	Nov 29, 2011 8:04 AM
196	Batting cages, Skating rink	Nov 29, 2011 8:03 AM
197	volleyball	Nov 29, 2011 8:01 AM
198	Skateboard park	Nov 29, 2011 7:59 AM
199	More areas to use threw out the city, there is nothing in Ward 7.	Nov 29, 2011 7:22 AM
200	Lacrosse program, Skateboarding Park,	Nov 29, 2011 7:11 AM



**Page 6, Q12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

20	programs focused on teens, volunteering, community service. team work	Jan 4, 2012 7:29 AM
21	hiking trails	Jan 3, 2012 3:51 PM
22	safer options in downtown.	Jan 2, 2012 5:48 PM
23	Better use of Heritage State Park, improvements on pools, Lynch Middle School update???	Jan 2, 2012 12:18 PM
24	I would like to see more swim programs for kids and more boating programs at jones ferry as well as affordable yoga programs.	Jan 2, 2012 10:37 AM
25	I'm not sure if the city is actually lacking in these programs or if they're just not accessible to people or advertised well. I went out of town looking for a tennis league and lessons because I found the website uninformative. I also think the city needs some good dog parks. More water activites, such as kayaking, canoeing along the river. There's an area near Pulaski Park that should be developed so people can do water activities. Right now it's too secluded and un safe.	Jan 1, 2012 10:42 AM
26	bike paths	Dec 31, 2011 8:09 PM
27	More walking and running trails.	Dec 31, 2011 4:36 PM
28	More urban gardens, permaculture-based landscape architecture	Dec 31, 2011 2:16 PM
29	street wise cycling education programs (there are always cyclists riding on the wrong side of the road, motorists are unaware of cyclists rights to be on the road, etc.)	Dec 31, 2011 10:15 AM
30	More gardens and farms	Dec 30, 2011 3:13 PM
31	Tennis Courts are good but need to be maintained. Would like to see a Pier built out from Pulaski Part over the river.	Dec 30, 2011 1:48 PM
32	i would love to see the bike path continue from easthampton into holyoke along the ct. river	Dec 30, 2011 1:10 PM
33	Can't wait for the completion of Community Field.	Dec 30, 2011 1:07 PM
34	Community gardens!!	Dec 30, 2011 12:41 PM
35	I would love to see a bike path that connects with other cities.	Dec 30, 2011 12:08 PM
36	Mt. Tom ski area is ripe for development	Dec 30, 2011 11:41 AM
37	funding for kids in low income families to participate in sports (scholarships, subsidies for sports programs)	Dec 30, 2011 8:45 AM
38	more bike lanes on city roads.	Dec 29, 2011 3:01 PM
39	Use of property that has been razed to make community gardens or small parks. more safe places to walk	Dec 29, 2011 1:13 PM

**Page 6, Q12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

40	-parks with areas for teens to climb, play, walk, skateboard -more trees and structures to provide shade in parks -more picnic tables or benches in parks - more pools and spray parks, especially in inner city areas -	Dec 28, 2011 3:07 PM
41	More on weekends and at times that are convenient.	Dec 27, 2011 10:40 AM
42	More trails and bike or walking river access.	Dec 25, 2011 7:02 PM
43	Scotts Tower and the surrounding trails are awesome. Clean it up and make it safe for families. The local parks don't have structures for my kids to play on. Bike trails, please! We love Mount Tom, support them in any way with funding, staff, etc...	Dec 21, 2011 6:52 PM
44	Bike paths	Dec 21, 2011 1:38 PM
45	paint ball park, skating park, night park with fire pits.	Dec 21, 2011 1:10 PM
46	hAVE NONE	Dec 21, 2011 11:02 AM
47	Access to Ct. River with trails and picnic tables and observation Platforms	Dec 20, 2011 7:44 PM
48	Already answered	Dec 19, 2011 7:42 AM
49	snowmobiles	Dec 18, 2011 5:28 PM
50	off road vehicles and mountain bikeing	Dec 18, 2011 2:50 PM
51	snowmobile and off road vehicles access, skate part for the teenagers.	Dec 18, 2011 2:18 PM
52	places for kids to go instead f being in the streets.	Dec 18, 2011 11:05 AM
53	Walking paths a d improved sidewalks.	Dec 18, 2011 8:42 AM
54	OUTDOOR ICE SKATING RINKS at perhaps local school properties or designated specfic location: Safer environment for neighborhood playgrounds. Promotion/better advertising for climbing/hiking trails. Farmers market(unrelated yet needs a mention) Please extend hours or change/add a weekend day for those residents who work and cannot attend the limited hours.	Dec 18, 2011 7:55 AM
55	Outdoor public Ice skating, bike trails, olympic swimming facility, State-of-the-art Volleyball training facility, Specially designed sledding hill, community skiing slope, staffed Look park type of venue.	Dec 18, 2011 6:08 AM
56	Parks patrols, more adult programs, a dedicated recreational facility to residents (not just the schools), Indoor sports and track facility, more timely upkeep of parks, better landscaping of parks,	Dec 17, 2011 2:35 PM
57	Bike & Running trails. Improve the riverfront.	Dec 17, 2011 10:11 AM
58	would like to see the city walk built	Dec 16, 2011 2:57 PM
59	someplace safe	Dec 16, 2011 8:50 AM
60	I think a fishing program would be good or outdoors investigations that provides	Dec 16, 2011 8:37 AM



**Page 6, Q12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

	both learning opportunities, hiking and fishing etc	
61	Bike Paths	Dec 16, 2011 8:12 AM
62	fishing kayaking at the reserviors	Dec 16, 2011 7:58 AM
63	bike paths that are either separated from roads by barriers or are completely off-road	Dec 16, 2011 7:23 AM
64	dog parks	Dec 16, 2011 6:36 AM
65	1. Open up the view of the Conn.River at MCNulty Park (Lincoln St.) This view used to be beautiful but because of trees growing taller the view is mostly gone. Trimming or removal of trees below the park would be nice. The benches are there (viewing area), put them to use the way they were meant to be used! 2. Walking/birdwatching paths/benches etc. on the Island. Hell, if the HGE can afford to put a park on the So' Hadley side of the river then why not fix up OUR Island on Holyokes' side of the river?	Dec 16, 2011 5:48 AM
66	Programs for all kids not just poor or w/ behavior problems	Dec 16, 2011 4:24 AM
67	lacrosse, fishing, rugby	Dec 15, 2011 8:50 PM
68	Growing up in Holyoke there were a lot of things to do - we had field trips to many of the locations listed, great organized sports. As a teenager, there was nothing except HS stuff and for those of us who were not interested all we could do is go to the mall. Back then, Holyoke could have used a movie theater. Now theaters are in decline, but there must be something. Possibly there are programs, but the kids do not know about them.	Dec 15, 2011 5:48 PM
69	Same as I mentioned previously. Volleyball courts, skate parks and aerial ropes courses. Also, bring back Mt. Tom skiing. Also would like to see year-round indoor gardens, perhaps in one of the old mills.	Dec 15, 2011 5:47 PM
70	Scots tower	Dec 15, 2011 5:44 PM
71	roller skating, ice skating, fishing	Dec 15, 2011 5:12 PM
72	bike paths, picnic areas	Dec 15, 2011 3:22 PM
73	bike path	Dec 15, 2011 3:06 PM
74	More pools, ice skating rinks, community fairs, free concerts.	Dec 15, 2011 2:33 PM
75	indoor soccer and putting some money in to parks that are not downtown. No spray parks that are well equipped or maintained above Route 5/ Northampton Street area and out towards West Holyoke	Dec 15, 2011 1:26 PM
76	Lynch Open Gym for pickup indoor soccer games	Dec 15, 2011 11:22 AM
77	dog park ( I know we have one in the works, I just want it now!)	Dec 15, 2011 10:51 AM
78	Please fix Kenny field. It's a swamp. Please make Avery Field safe. Please allow teenagers to play more often at MacKenzie.	Dec 15, 2011 10:29 AM

**Page 6, Q12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

79	more bike paths, more community gardens	Dec 15, 2011 9:36 AM
80	Bike lanes. Some on Nhamp and Hampden Streets just stop and cars drive in them. unsafe!!	Dec 15, 2011 9:15 AM
81	Bike paths, HCC trails maintained	Dec 15, 2011 8:24 AM
82	tennis & golf programs. Access to the YMCA to be more affordable.	Dec 15, 2011 8:04 AM
83	Safe routes for walking safe place for kids to play with out bigger kids causing problems.	Dec 15, 2011 7:59 AM
84	Community filed. upgrade and make it safe	Dec 15, 2011 7:43 AM
85	none	Dec 15, 2011 7:42 AM
86	frisbee games, ciclovía, soccer teams	Dec 15, 2011 7:40 AM
87	MT TOM and Scott tower/ Scott tower should be able to be viewd when driven on the highway. It is hidden history	Dec 15, 2011 7:27 AM
88	More leagues for kids after school	Dec 15, 2011 7:22 AM
89	safer fishing areas along the ct river	Dec 15, 2011 7:20 AM
90	better publicity for new residents (i am still searching), community performance space ala flywheel in easthampton, easier navigation on finding info on adult programs-website is not easy use, skateboarding/bmx park- mt. bike trails, bike trail connecting to other towns	Dec 15, 2011 7:20 AM
91	Anything outdoors in a safe place. I would love to see downtown be turned into someplace good instead of dangerous.	Dec 15, 2011 7:12 AM
92	more bike paths but not on streets. Paths should be out of way not on streets where it is not safe	Dec 14, 2011 3:28 PM
93	bicycle paths; hiking trails, running trails	Dec 14, 2011 10:04 AM
94	Dog recreation	Dec 13, 2011 8:03 AM
95	I would like to see a dog park. Many of the roads in my neighborhood don't even have sidewalks so we're forced to walk in the road. I would love to have a dog park where he could run off leash.	Dec 13, 2011 7:16 AM
96	Ice Skating, roller skating, bike riding, hiking, running/jogging paths	Dec 12, 2011 10:51 AM
97	more and better park playground equipment	Dec 12, 2011 7:29 AM
98	dog parks, skiing	Dec 8, 2011 7:54 PM
99	youth programs. skateboarding park , bmx track	Dec 8, 2011 7:14 PM
100	The city needs more public pools, a dog park, a bike path connecting Holyoke to Easthampton and Northampton, a public outdoor skating area, a skate park. The	Dec 8, 2011 7:04 PM

**Page 6, Q12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

city needs to do something with all that land around Scott's Tower and make it a real park with public safety there to keep crime down, maybe even a police station at the top of the hill. I am glad to see the city is renovating community field, but there needs to be a large police presence there-- an actual substation-- or it will be destroyed. The city needs an active family center like every other area town has, with daily programming for kids age 0-6. Enlaces de las familias gets money for this type of service, but is really only providing a daycare. it is inadequate to the needs of everyone in the community. Northampton Parents Center is a model that should be used here.

101	Some place for the teens to go for shows etc.	Dec 8, 2011 6:27 PM
102	bike paths	Dec 8, 2011 6:05 PM
103	I can't believe that I've had to get to question 12 to write in CANAL WALK. You have private owned golf courses listed in this form, but not the Canal Walk. This is just more evidence of the complete disconnect that the city has for what is critical to the future of the city.	Dec 8, 2011 5:41 PM
104	Walking/running route of mile or so in a more urban setting than the reservoirs. le somewhere you could safely walk or run by yourself.	Dec 8, 2011 4:44 PM
105	clear views from city parks bike trail along river	Dec 8, 2011 4:27 PM
106	Bike trail! Connect to Manhan through Mt. Tom!	Dec 8, 2011 3:54 PM
107	Bike paths. Please fix and upkeep tennis courts at Jones Park. More trees.	Dec 8, 2011 12:40 PM
108	Dance classes should be offered. The high school should have a dance team.	Dec 8, 2011 12:39 PM
109	better parking/access to Whiting Reservoir. The 141 entrance has very little parking and is across Rt. 141 which is dangerous.	Dec 8, 2011 9:49 AM
110	We need to be aware of the programs!!! I find out about them after it's too late, or years of not knowing they exist!!!	Dec 8, 2011 9:45 AM
111	more bike paths, connections to rail trail, connection to riverside, swimming in river, skate park, outdoor dancing and music staging with restrooms	Dec 7, 2011 12:31 PM
112	Clear the view in Pulaski Park. Connect Canal walk to other bike trails.	Dec 6, 2011 6:23 AM
113	some adult leagues	Dec 6, 2011 6:11 AM
114	Atv trails,or riding trails	Dec 5, 2011 8:40 PM
115	Community Gardens Skateboard Parks	Dec 5, 2011 6:04 PM
116	Outdoor ice skating. Skate board park Sprinkler parks	Dec 5, 2011 9:20 AM
117	I'm excited about water park at Community Field! I have a 7 year old and we need more accessible opportunities! Don't know if a truly accessible playground is possible?	Dec 5, 2011 9:16 AM
118	Safer walking area's other than the Mall for elderly in winter	Dec 5, 2011 9:07 AM

**Page 6, Q12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

119	dog park, more afterschool activities, ice skating, swimming, more organized adult programming	Dec 5, 2011 8:57 AM
120	Improve river views, maintain and improve parks as restorative, relaxing, family friendly places.	Dec 5, 2011 8:38 AM
121	lacross for girls, bike path, dog parks	Dec 5, 2011 7:07 AM
122	Skate Park	Dec 4, 2011 7:41 AM
123	dog park	Dec 3, 2011 5:13 AM
124	nature walks close to town	Dec 2, 2011 8:29 PM
125	Key is to MAINTAIN what park/recreational areas we already have. Our city was known far & wide for its beautiful parks - they were (then) maintained	Dec 2, 2011 2:57 PM
126	An indoor sports complex. improved baseball/sotball fields	Dec 2, 2011 1:37 PM
127	music	Dec 2, 2011 10:44 AM
128	Flag Football for Children in grades K-8. This would give kids this age who dont like soccer an opportunity to play a fall sport.It would also enhance the youth football program in place.There are many communities around Holyoke who have had a program like this in place,with great results for boys and girls.	Dec 1, 2011 12:55 PM
129	Avery Field repaired and its ball field maintained by the cityand used by teams	Dec 1, 2011 12:19 PM
130	River access in the Flats and South Holyoke. Kayaking on the canals	Dec 1, 2011 7:06 AM
131	The city could encourage "arts" activities through support of Holyoke Creative Arts Center.	Dec 1, 2011 6:37 AM
132	I'm hoping that Community Field will be again open to families to enjoy for free. This is a hidden treasure in this city and I hope more is done about that.	Nov 29, 2011 8:17 PM
133	swimming	Nov 29, 2011 5:23 PM
134	ward sports teams	Nov 29, 2011 3:59 PM
135	need new senior center with new programs	Nov 29, 2011 2:13 PM
136	Something with dining attached. I know that may not be considered recreational but we need more dining options.	Nov 29, 2011 1:51 PM
137	In winter time more indoor activities more gyms open and let the community know about these events in summer more security in parks and more lights on	Nov 29, 2011 1:43 PM
138	Cycling programs for kids (free or low cost), outdoor roller skating/skateboarding/BMX facilities (free) and free outdoor ice skating, ice skating lessons in the late afternoon or evening.	Nov 29, 2011 1:08 PM
139	snowshoeing, downhill skiing, cross country skiing, walking club, dirt biking, skateboarding	Nov 29, 2011 12:01 PM

**Page 6, Q12. Please list new, or improved, recreational activities/programs that you would like to see in Holyoke:**

140	bike/rail trails	Nov 29, 2011 11:34 AM
141	I would like to see the Canal Walk expanded & completed	Nov 29, 2011 11:12 AM
142	Bike trail	Nov 29, 2011 10:33 AM
143	skate park , bike path	Nov 29, 2011 9:53 AM
144	Cleaner and safer parks and playgrounds.	Nov 29, 2011 9:45 AM
145	Lacrosse Program, Skateboard PArk, Outdoor Winter Activites	Nov 29, 2011 8:58 AM
146	expansion of bike shops, community bike education days (often run by local police) more organized days out in the parks.	Nov 29, 2011 8:27 AM
147	More indoor activities for youth to have access to in the winter months.Examples: Batting cages, roller skating	Nov 29, 2011 8:15 AM
148	Better public transportation to facilities. Maybe link the various locations on a recreational transport route with appropriate public transportation..	Nov 29, 2011 7:59 AM





**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

1	Pulaski Park	Apr 6, 2012 4:29 AM
2	The river and the old mountain park	Mar 28, 2012 4:13 PM
3	Scott's tower	Mar 24, 2012 5:01 AM
4	Mount Tom	Mar 11, 2012 7:18 AM
5	Mt Tom, Ashley Reservoir whiting reservoir, Wisteriahurst gardens	Feb 14, 2012 7:05 AM
6	Ashley and Whiting resevoir. Veterns park. Oh and the dinasaur tracks love them all!	Feb 5, 2012 11:43 AM
7	Whiting Reservoir	Jan 23, 2012 8:26 AM
8	Mountain Park, Springdale	Jan 23, 2012 7:05 AM
9	Ashley	Jan 19, 2012 5:45 PM
10	river	Jan 16, 2012 5:26 PM
11	trails behind HCC	Jan 16, 2012 8:53 AM
12	City Center	Jan 15, 2012 8:20 PM
13	Down town area along the canals	Jan 12, 2012 3:42 PM
14	This is not a fair question! So many great places...I love Dinosaur Footprints, dining down by the canals, the Fish Elevator, Mt. Tom and awesome views.	Jan 11, 2012 6:21 PM
15	ashly resevoir	Jan 10, 2012 4:59 PM
16	Mt Tom, the resevoir, pulaski park sorry I couldn't choose one	Jan 10, 2012 11:03 AM
17	Ashley Reservoir	Jan 9, 2012 7:32 PM
18	One of my favorites is actually the park between Sargeant St. and W. Franklin. I wish it had tennis courts!	Jan 9, 2012 1:42 PM
19	the reservoirs, woods behind hcc mt tom.	Jan 8, 2012 2:47 PM
20	Mt Tom	Jan 7, 2012 8:17 AM
21	reservior	Jan 5, 2012 7:00 PM
22	Mt. Tom	Jan 5, 2012 9:24 AM
23	Nuestras Raices, Jones Ferry, Trustees of Reservations Land of Providence, HCC campus, the Trustees dinosaur footprint park, the Heritage Park	Jan 5, 2012 6:48 AM
24	Reservoirs	Jan 4, 2012 11:06 AM
25	Historic museum	Jan 4, 2012 8:42 AM

**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

26	Heritage Park, Canal Walk	Jan 4, 2012 7:29 AM
27	whiting resevoir	Jan 3, 2012 6:11 PM
28	Little Mount Tom	Jan 3, 2012 3:52 PM
29	Ashley resivour, and the trails behind hcc / the cherry street extention area	Jan 3, 2012 9:46 AM
30	Reservoir	Jan 2, 2012 5:50 PM
31	jones ferry marina	Jan 2, 2012 1:35 PM
32	Heritage State Park	Jan 2, 2012 12:18 PM
33	Ashley Reservoir	Jan 2, 2012 10:38 AM
34	Mt. Tom and Mountain Park	Jan 1, 2012 9:18 PM
35	Ashley Reservoir is #1!!! Then it would be Pulaski Park - more should be done to create a walk along the river or to clear out the trees so the river can be scene. Also developing a place for kayaking/canoeing near there would be great!	Jan 1, 2012 10:43 AM
36	Nuestras Raices on Main St.	Dec 31, 2011 8:10 PM
37	Community Field / Scott Tower	Dec 31, 2011 4:36 PM
38	Mt. Tom reservation and boat house	Dec 31, 2011 10:18 AM
39	Kennedy park	Dec 30, 2011 4:49 PM
40	canal, dinasour foot print	Dec 30, 2011 3:14 PM
41	Mt Tom	Dec 30, 2011 1:49 PM
42	reservoirs & mt tom	Dec 30, 2011 1:36 PM
43	whiting and ashley reservoir	Dec 30, 2011 1:12 PM
44	Mt. Tom reservation, Walk up to Scott's Tower	Dec 30, 2011 1:09 PM
45	Jones Ferry	Dec 30, 2011 12:41 PM
46	The canals, where the improvements have been made by the carousel & Open Square.	Dec 30, 2011 12:09 PM
47	Ashley Res.	Dec 30, 2011 11:42 AM
48	MT TOM	Dec 30, 2011 10:54 AM
49	Ahley Reservoir (and Mt. Tom)	Dec 30, 2011 10:53 AM
50	Mt Tom	Dec 30, 2011 8:45 AM

**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

51	canal walk	Dec 29, 2011 3:16 PM
52	HCC grounds, Pulaski Park and Mt Tom	Dec 29, 2011 1:14 PM
53	Mt Tom State Park	Dec 28, 2011 3:09 PM
54	Canal Walk	Dec 27, 2011 10:42 AM
55	I love Mt. Tom, but I also love just wandering around either on foot or on my bike and finding new outdoor spaces that I hadn't known before.	Dec 26, 2011 7:48 AM
56	Mt. Tom	Dec 25, 2011 7:03 PM
57	mt tom reservation	Dec 25, 2011 9:41 AM
58	Whiting Res	Dec 23, 2011 1:13 PM
59	Mt tom	Dec 22, 2011 6:07 AM
60	We love Mt. Tom, Ashley Res. and Whitting too	Dec 21, 2011 6:53 PM
61	Mt Tom	Dec 21, 2011 2:42 PM
62	whiting reservoir	Dec 21, 2011 1:38 PM
63	mt. tom	Dec 21, 2011 1:14 PM
64	Mt. Tom Scott Tower	Dec 20, 2011 7:46 PM
65	Mt Tom Res	Dec 19, 2011 7:43 AM
66	Holyoke Canoe Club, also park right downtown that overlooks the river	Dec 19, 2011 5:23 AM
67	whiting res n scott tower	Dec 18, 2011 5:29 PM
68	scotts tower	Dec 18, 2011 2:50 PM
69	My favorate outdoor places are Mt tom scott tower hcc's secic trails.	Dec 18, 2011 2:18 PM
70	Wyckoff Country Club.	Dec 18, 2011 12:28 PM
71	wyatt park,mckenzie field.	Dec 18, 2011 11:07 AM
72	Mt. Tom	Dec 18, 2011 10:46 AM
73	Pulaski paek	Dec 18, 2011 8:43 AM
74	Ashely Reservoir	Dec 18, 2011 7:56 AM
75	Canal district, Ashley/Whiting Reservoirs	Dec 18, 2011 6:11 AM
76	Holyoke Heritage State Park	Dec 17, 2011 6:51 PM
77	It will be Community Field. Right now it's the Roberts Sports Complex and	Dec 17, 2011 2:37 PM

**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

	Pulaski Park	
78	Mt Tom	Dec 17, 2011 10:12 AM
79	ashley reservoir	Dec 16, 2011 2:57 PM
80	Was Scott's tower	Dec 16, 2011 11:14 AM
81	anywhere in Rock Valley	Dec 16, 2011 8:51 AM
82	Springdale Park	Dec 16, 2011 8:38 AM
83	Ashley Resivior	Dec 16, 2011 8:13 AM
84	mt tom	Dec 16, 2011 7:59 AM
85	Springdale Park	Dec 16, 2011 7:33 AM
86	Pulaski Park	Dec 16, 2011 6:36 AM
87	Mt Tom Reservation/Ashley Res	Dec 16, 2011 5:49 AM
88	Away from downtown.	Dec 16, 2011 4:00 AM
89	ashley res.	Dec 15, 2011 8:51 PM
90	mt tom, pulaski park, the resaviors	Dec 15, 2011 8:33 PM
91	Mt. Tom	Dec 15, 2011 6:45 PM
92	The park on Lincoln street that overlooks the CT river as an open space. The area surrounding HCC as a natural place.	Dec 15, 2011 5:50 PM
93	Ashley Reservoir - beautiful!	Dec 15, 2011 5:49 PM
94	East mountain wild life management area	Dec 15, 2011 5:45 PM
95	ashley resevoir	Dec 15, 2011 5:12 PM
96	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 3:23 PM
97	mt tom	Dec 15, 2011 3:07 PM
98	Pulaski Park	Dec 15, 2011 2:34 PM
99	None	Dec 15, 2011 2:28 PM
100	The reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 2:23 PM
101	Behind HCC, Mt Tom and Mt Tom Reservation	Dec 15, 2011 1:27 PM
102	Mountain Park	Dec 15, 2011 12:34 PM
103	Mt. Tom, Dinosaur Tracks, Open streams/brooks/creeks.	Dec 15, 2011 11:23 AM

**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

104	mt tom	Dec 15, 2011 10:51 AM
105	Highland Park	Dec 15, 2011 10:50 AM
106	MT RESERVATION	Dec 15, 2011 10:50 AM
107	ashley	Dec 15, 2011 10:29 AM
108	The river	Dec 15, 2011 10:23 AM
109	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 10:21 AM
110	Ashley Pond	Dec 15, 2011 10:14 AM
111	ashley resevoir	Dec 15, 2011 10:04 AM
112	the CT River	Dec 15, 2011 10:02 AM
113	ashley res	Dec 15, 2011 9:39 AM
114	Whiting Street Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 9:15 AM
115	Mount Tom	Dec 15, 2011 8:29 AM
116	Mt. Tom State Reservation	Dec 15, 2011 8:24 AM
117	Ashely Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 8:05 AM
118	Ashley Res.	Dec 15, 2011 8:02 AM
119	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 7:59 AM
120	Ashley Reservoir ans Mt Tom Reservation	Dec 15, 2011 7:57 AM
121	Not Sure. it use to be the MT. Tom Ski Area	Dec 15, 2011 7:47 AM
122	ashley	Dec 15, 2011 7:42 AM
123	Roberts Field Sports Complex	Dec 15, 2011 7:41 AM
124	Mount Tom	Dec 15, 2011 7:41 AM
125	scotts tower	Dec 15, 2011 7:38 AM
126	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 7:33 AM
127	Road Race/ St Pats Parade/ Ski Area	Dec 15, 2011 7:32 AM
128	Ashley Res.	Dec 15, 2011 7:23 AM
129	Ashley Resivoir and Scotts Tower	Dec 15, 2011 7:21 AM
130	mt. tom ct.river	Dec 15, 2011 7:21 AM

**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

131	Mt. Tom	Dec 15, 2011 7:14 AM
132	Mt Tom Reservation & Ashley Res	Dec 15, 2011 7:10 AM
133	Whiting Street Reservoir	Dec 14, 2011 3:04 PM
134	Whiting Reservoir	Dec 14, 2011 10:05 AM
135	Crosier Field	Dec 13, 2011 1:47 PM
136	MT Tom	Dec 13, 2011 8:03 AM
137	Mt Tom	Dec 13, 2011 7:17 AM
138	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 12, 2011 1:10 PM
139	Mt Tom res. Whiting Street res. Veterans Park	Dec 12, 2011 10:56 AM
140	Heritage Park	Dec 12, 2011 10:51 AM
141	Mt. Tom Reservation	Dec 12, 2011 7:30 AM
142	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 11, 2011 6:42 PM
143	Ashley and Whiting Street reservoirs	Dec 10, 2011 7:25 AM
144	Holyoke Heritage State park	Dec 9, 2011 7:01 AM
145	Mt. Tom Reservation	Dec 8, 2011 9:09 PM
146	the canals and then Mt.Tom	Dec 8, 2011 7:55 PM
147	heritage park	Dec 8, 2011 7:15 PM
148	Ashley Reservoir and Whiting Reservoir, but the only problem is YOU DON'T ALLOW DOGS AND YOU SHOULD!!!!!!! I also like Mount Tom.	Dec 8, 2011 7:05 PM
149	Scotts Tower and Mt. Tom	Dec 8, 2011 6:28 PM
150	Mount Tom resevoir	Dec 8, 2011 6:06 PM
151	Canal Walk	Dec 8, 2011 5:42 PM
152	mt. tomm	Dec 8, 2011 5:09 PM
153	Rohan park and canoe club	Dec 8, 2011 4:45 PM
154	Mt Tom	Dec 8, 2011 4:28 PM
155	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 8, 2011 3:55 PM
156	Mt. Tom	Dec 8, 2011 2:37 PM
157	MT Tom	Dec 8, 2011 12:40 PM



**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

158	Whiting resevoir	Dec 8, 2011 12:40 PM
159	Ashley -- Grew up on it	Dec 8, 2011 10:45 AM
160	Whiting Reservoir!	Dec 8, 2011 9:50 AM
161	ashley res	Dec 8, 2011 9:47 AM
162	Mt Tom	Dec 7, 2011 2:10 PM
163	my back yard and the canal walk	Dec 7, 2011 12:31 PM
164	scotts tower	Dec 7, 2011 8:09 AM
165	CT River	Dec 6, 2011 1:37 PM
166	Pulaski Park, Ashley and Whiting Reservoirs	Dec 6, 2011 6:24 AM
167	mt tom	Dec 6, 2011 6:11 AM
168	Mt.tom state reservation	Dec 5, 2011 8:40 PM
169	The reservoirs	Dec 5, 2011 6:05 PM
170	Wjhiting Street Reservoir, >t. Tom	Dec 5, 2011 6:02 PM
171	Mt Tom	Dec 5, 2011 10:32 AM
172	Ashley Reservoir. I am also looking forward to more development of the Canal Walk	Dec 5, 2011 9:21 AM
173	The park overlooking the dam, or the fish ladder, or either of the reservoirs!	Dec 5, 2011 9:18 AM
174	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 5, 2011 9:10 AM
175	Mt Tom	Dec 5, 2011 9:08 AM
176	Mount Tom	Dec 5, 2011 8:58 AM
177	The Canal Walk	Dec 5, 2011 8:42 AM
178	Mt. Tom and the reserviors	Dec 5, 2011 8:26 AM
179	the canals	Dec 5, 2011 7:28 AM
180	Ashley / Whiting Reservoirs	Dec 5, 2011 7:13 AM
181	ashley resevoir	Dec 5, 2011 7:09 AM
182	ashley res.	Dec 4, 2011 7:42 AM
183	Pulaski Park	Dec 3, 2011 5:14 AM
184	Dinosaur Footprints	Dec 2, 2011 8:29 PM

**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

185	Mt Tom & the CT river	Dec 2, 2011 2:59 PM
186	Roberts Filed/McKenzie Stadium	Dec 2, 2011 1:38 PM
187	Mt Tom	Dec 2, 2011 10:44 AM
188	Mount Tom/HCC trails	Dec 1, 2011 8:27 PM
189	Roberts sports complex or anniversery field	Dec 1, 2011 12:56 PM
190	Mt Tom reservation	Dec 1, 2011 12:19 PM
191	Pulaski Park. The beach near the Dinosaur footprints.	Dec 1, 2011 7:08 AM
192	Mt Tom	Dec 1, 2011 6:37 AM
193	Mt. Tom	Nov 30, 2011 7:40 PM
194	Heritage State Park, Community Field, Ashey Reservoir, Mount Tom.	Nov 29, 2011 8:20 PM
195	Holyoke Country Club	Nov 29, 2011 5:24 PM
196	The Reservation	Nov 29, 2011 4:13 PM
197	Ashley Reservoir	Nov 29, 2011 4:00 PM
198	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 2:14 PM
199	Holyoke Country Club	Nov 29, 2011 2:07 PM
200	Mt. Tom	Nov 29, 2011 1:51 PM
201	Makenzie park	Nov 29, 2011 1:45 PM
202	MT Tom Reservation	Nov 29, 2011 1:27 PM
203	Roberts Field	Nov 29, 2011 1:26 PM
204	Pulaski Park, Kennedy Park, the park on West Franklin St, Community Field up until they closed it (my kids really miss that park), Ashley Reservoir, Heritage Park, Anniversary Field when there is snow, Crosier Field, Mackenzie Park, Springdale Park, Sullivan School for sledding	Nov 29, 2011 1:09 PM
205	My yard, the woods	Nov 29, 2011 12:01 PM
206	Whiting Street Reservoir	Nov 29, 2011 11:35 AM
207	the Canal Walk and Heritage Park	Nov 29, 2011 11:13 AM
208	Mount Tom Reservation, Especially with all of its secrets, such as bray lake, and its trails.	Nov 29, 2011 11:09 AM
209	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 10:38 AM

**Page 7, Q18. What is your favorite outdoor place in Holyoke?**

210	Mt Tom - Mt Park	Nov 29, 2011 9:55 AM
211	Mt.Tom Reservation, the trails	Nov 29, 2011 9:54 AM
212	Crosier field and the little park next to jackson and chestnut street. Sorry I don't know the name.	Nov 29, 2011 9:47 AM
213	Heritage Park.	Nov 29, 2011 9:26 AM
214	Holyoke Canoe Club	Nov 29, 2011 8:59 AM
215	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 8:53 AM
216	on the lower canal bridge, near fish ladder and lyman street at sunset	Nov 29, 2011 8:46 AM
217	Nuestras, Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 8:28 AM
218	Mt Tom Heritage State Park Canal Walk Ashley	Nov 29, 2011 8:17 AM
219	Heritage Park & Mt. Tom	Nov 29, 2011 8:16 AM
220	Mt. Tom	Nov 29, 2011 8:16 AM
221	Mt. Tom	Nov 29, 2011 7:59 AM
222	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 7:32 AM



**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

1	Mount tom	Mar 28, 2012 4:13 PM
2	Scott's tower, dinosaur tracks.	Mar 24, 2012 5:01 AM
3	Mount Tom and Whiting Street Reservoir	Mar 11, 2012 7:18 AM
4	Ashley reservoir, Wisteriahurst, Mt Tom, Whiting Reservoir, Neighborhoods	Feb 14, 2012 7:05 AM
5	all the above	Feb 5, 2012 11:43 AM
6	Canals and Downtown	Jan 23, 2012 8:26 AM
7	Mountain Park, Nuestra Raices & Holyoke Museum	Jan 23, 2012 7:05 AM
8	Conn. river	Jan 16, 2012 8:53 AM
9	Connecticut River	Jan 15, 2012 8:20 PM
10	all of the beautiful facilities in downtown including city hall	Jan 12, 2012 3:42 PM
11	The Merry-Go-Round and Canal Walk (for young visitor) Wistariahurst (for adults) The canals (for hipsters) Seriously, y'all...this survey is super long and I'm about to get silly. But I <3 the work you do!	Jan 11, 2012 6:21 PM
12	mt tom	Jan 10, 2012 4:59 PM
13	Merry-go-round	Jan 10, 2012 11:03 AM
14	merry-go-round	Jan 9, 2012 7:32 PM
15	The Merry-Go-Round, Heritage Stage Park, Fish Ladder, Mt. Tom Reservation.	Jan 9, 2012 1:42 PM
16	mt tom	Jan 8, 2012 2:47 PM
17	Mt Tom, Whiting Reservoir	Jan 7, 2012 8:17 AM
18	Fish Ladder	Jan 5, 2012 7:00 PM
19	The Canals	Jan 5, 2012 9:24 AM
20	Mt. Tom area Ashley Res. Whiting Res.	Jan 5, 2012 8:53 AM
21	The dinosaur footprints reservation	Jan 5, 2012 6:48 AM
22	Holyoke Mall	Jan 4, 2012 7:17 PM
23	downtown and south holyoke	Jan 4, 2012 12:02 PM
24	Canals	Jan 4, 2012 11:06 AM
25	Conn. River	Jan 4, 2012 8:42 AM
26	Heritage Park, Canal Walk, Wistariahurst, the beautiful architecture of homes.	Jan 4, 2012 7:29 AM

**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

27	Mt Tom,reservation	Jan 3, 2012 6:11 PM
28	Mount Tom	Jan 3, 2012 3:52 PM
29	Scotts tower	Jan 3, 2012 9:46 AM
30	Mt Tom and Reservoir	Jan 2, 2012 5:50 PM
31	downtown	Jan 2, 2012 1:35 PM
32	Children's Museum	Jan 2, 2012 12:18 PM
33	Canal walk, square one and farmers' market, Ashley Reservoir and Wisteriahurst	Jan 2, 2012 10:38 AM
34	Mt. Tom and Mountain Park	Jan 1, 2012 9:18 PM
35	Ashley Reservoir	Jan 1, 2012 10:43 AM
36	Mount Tom Whiting Street Reservoir	Dec 31, 2011 4:36 PM
37	Various locations during events like Block Party, El Noche de San Juan, Bring Your Own Restaurant, yoga at the boat house	Dec 31, 2011 10:18 AM
38	The dam	Dec 30, 2011 4:49 PM
39	city hall, canal, dinasour foot print	Dec 30, 2011 3:14 PM
40	Holyoke Dam	Dec 30, 2011 1:49 PM
41	mountain park, mt tom, whiting res	Dec 30, 2011 1:36 PM
42	mt.tom and reservoirs	Dec 30, 2011 1:12 PM
43	Downtown Holyoke	Dec 30, 2011 1:09 PM
44	Jones Ferry, Mt Tom	Dec 30, 2011 12:41 PM
45	Open Square.	Dec 30, 2011 12:09 PM
46	Canals, Open Square, City Hall	Dec 30, 2011 11:42 AM
47	MT TOM	Dec 30, 2011 10:54 AM
48	Mt. Tom	Dec 30, 2011 10:53 AM
49	Mt Tom, Children's Museum	Dec 30, 2011 8:45 AM
50	canal walk/heritage state park	Dec 29, 2011 3:16 PM
51	depends on who is visiting	Dec 29, 2011 1:14 PM
52	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 28, 2011 3:09 PM



**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

53	Heritage Park, City Hall	Dec 27, 2011 10:42 AM
54	Mt. Tom, several of the views from along the river	Dec 26, 2011 7:48 AM
55	Mt. Tom, whiting reservoir, and downtown	Dec 25, 2011 7:03 PM
56	scott's tower, the old mt park, and of course Mt tom Reservation	Dec 25, 2011 9:41 AM
57	Ashley Res. Mt. Tome	Dec 23, 2011 1:13 PM
58	mt tom	Dec 22, 2011 6:07 AM
59	Ashley Res.	Dec 21, 2011 6:53 PM
60	Mt Tom	Dec 21, 2011 2:42 PM
61	the reservoirs	Dec 21, 2011 1:38 PM
62	mt. tom, connecticut river and merry-go-round.	Dec 21, 2011 1:14 PM
63	city hall	Dec 21, 2011 11:02 AM
64	Dam from lower bridge	Dec 20, 2011 7:46 PM
65	Water power	Dec 19, 2011 7:43 AM
66	Canoe club	Dec 19, 2011 5:23 AM
67	whiting res	Dec 18, 2011 5:29 PM
68	scott tower	Dec 18, 2011 2:50 PM
69	scott tower mt tom and holyokes down town history of paper mills and the city.	Dec 18, 2011 2:18 PM
70	Ashley reservoir.	Dec 18, 2011 12:28 PM
71	highland, but no where close to south holyoke	Dec 18, 2011 11:07 AM
72	Mt. Tom	Dec 18, 2011 10:46 AM
73	Scott's Tower	Dec 18, 2011 8:43 AM
74	Ashley Reservoir: Holyoke Merry go round	Dec 18, 2011 7:56 AM
75	Pulaski Park, Ashley Reservoir, Canal District	Dec 18, 2011 6:11 AM
76	Holyoke Merry-Go-Round	Dec 17, 2011 6:51 PM
77	The River, Reservoirs,	Dec 17, 2011 10:12 AM
78	ashley reservoir	Dec 16, 2011 2:57 PM
79	Merry go round	Dec 16, 2011 11:14 AM

**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

80	above	Dec 16, 2011 8:51 AM
81	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 16, 2011 8:38 AM
82	Ashley Resivior	Dec 16, 2011 8:13 AM
83	none	Dec 16, 2011 7:59 AM
84	Nuestras Raices Farm, Mt Tom	Dec 16, 2011 7:33 AM
85	Open Square, Veterans Park, and Pulaski Park	Dec 16, 2011 6:36 AM
86	Dino Tracks	Dec 16, 2011 5:49 AM
87	Mount Tom	Dec 16, 2011 4:00 AM
88	ashley res. ,mt tom, merry go round	Dec 15, 2011 8:51 PM
89	mt tom	Dec 15, 2011 8:33 PM
90	Mt. Tom	Dec 15, 2011 6:45 PM
91	I don't show visitors Holyoke.	Dec 15, 2011 5:50 PM
92	Downtown Canal District, City Hall and the Fish Lift.	Dec 15, 2011 5:49 PM
93	Mt Tom	Dec 15, 2011 5:45 PM
94	mall	Dec 15, 2011 5:12 PM
95	mt tom	Dec 15, 2011 3:07 PM
96	Pulaski Park, Mt. Tom State Reservation, Heritage Park, Dam	Dec 15, 2011 2:34 PM
97	Dinosaur Tracks	Dec 15, 2011 2:28 PM
98	the mall	Dec 15, 2011 1:27 PM
99	Mt. Thomas, Ct river fishing	Dec 15, 2011 11:23 AM
100	mt tom	Dec 15, 2011 10:51 AM
101	Merry-Go-Round	Dec 15, 2011 10:50 AM
102	HOLYOKE MALL	Dec 15, 2011 10:50 AM
103	ashley	Dec 15, 2011 10:29 AM
104	The Flats	Dec 15, 2011 10:23 AM
105	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 10:21 AM
106	Highlands	Dec 15, 2011 10:14 AM

**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

107	mount tom reservation	Dec 15, 2011 10:04 AM
108	Nt Tom	Dec 15, 2011 10:02 AM
109	mt tom, ashley, mclean, nuestras raices, open square, El Mercado	Dec 15, 2011 9:39 AM
110	Whiting Street Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 9:15 AM
111	City Hall	Dec 15, 2011 8:29 AM
112	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 15, 2011 8:24 AM
113	Mount Tom	Dec 15, 2011 8:05 AM
114	Holyoke dam, Merry goround and the Mall Because they are the safest place to go.	Dec 15, 2011 8:02 AM
115	don't have one	Dec 15, 2011 7:59 AM
116	Reservoirs and historic homes/neighborhoods.	Dec 15, 2011 7:57 AM
117	Merry go Round	Dec 15, 2011 7:47 AM
118	mall	Dec 15, 2011 7:42 AM
119	Roberts Field Sports Complex; Ashley; Whiting; Mt. Tom	Dec 15, 2011 7:41 AM
120	The Nuestras Raices farm	Dec 15, 2011 7:41 AM
121	canals	Dec 15, 2011 7:38 AM
122	Merry-go-Round	Dec 15, 2011 7:33 AM
123	Ski Area/ this is a negative shown place. the ski area should be back up and running. If the state cant do it find someone who can. People like to hear what Holyoke was not its present. Pretty Sad	Dec 15, 2011 7:32 AM
124	Mt Tom	Dec 15, 2011 7:23 AM
125	Ashley Resivoir	Dec 15, 2011 7:21 AM
126	mt.tom area, canals during daylight hours	Dec 15, 2011 7:21 AM
127	Mt. Tom, Mountain Park, Paper City Brewery, CT River, Downtown area (only on parade weekend since I feel it is the only time it is safe enough)	Dec 15, 2011 7:14 AM
128	Northampton. Sorry :(	Dec 14, 2011 3:04 PM
129	Mt. Tom and Whiting Reservoir	Dec 14, 2011 10:05 AM
130	Mt. Tom	Dec 13, 2011 1:47 PM
131	Barnes and Noble	Dec 13, 2011 8:03 AM

**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

132	Mt Tom. The views are breathtaking from the top of the mountain. It is why I moved to Holyoke and live within walking distance of the mountain. A casino would ruin this town and community.	Dec 13, 2011 7:17 AM
133	Merry go round, canals	Dec 12, 2011 10:56 AM
134	Mt Tom, Heritage Park	Dec 12, 2011 10:51 AM
135	nd	Dec 12, 2011 7:30 AM
136	Ashley and Whiting Street reservoirs	Dec 10, 2011 7:25 AM
137	My home on rock Valley road & then Holyoke Heritage State Park	Dec 9, 2011 7:01 AM
138	downtown mills	Dec 8, 2011 7:55 PM
139	city hall	Dec 8, 2011 7:15 PM
140	Mount Tom, Holyoke Children's Museum, merry-go-round, if it's nice out, Ashley Reservoir.	Dec 8, 2011 7:05 PM
141	Mt. Tom	Dec 8, 2011 6:28 PM
142	Mount Tom	Dec 8, 2011 6:06 PM
143	Ghost of industrial past.	Dec 8, 2011 5:42 PM
144	mt. tom	Dec 8, 2011 5:09 PM
145	Canals, canoe club	Dec 8, 2011 4:45 PM
146	high rock	Dec 8, 2011 4:28 PM
147	Ashley Reservoir and Open Square	Dec 8, 2011 3:55 PM
148	Mt. Tom	Dec 8, 2011 2:37 PM
149	merry-go-round, dino tracks, Highlands	Dec 8, 2011 1:18 PM
150	MT Tom and the highlands, downtown	Dec 8, 2011 12:40 PM
151	Fish ladder,	Dec 8, 2011 12:40 PM
152	Cannel system - Water wheels	Dec 8, 2011 10:45 AM
153	Whiting Reservoir and Mt. Tom Reservation.	Dec 8, 2011 9:50 AM
154	skinner mt. (hadley) , Mt. park? and Atkins, not much in Holyoke to show	Dec 8, 2011 9:47 AM
155	Mt Tom, Ahsley Reservoir and Fish Lift	Dec 7, 2011 2:10 PM
156	the canal walk	Dec 7, 2011 12:31 PM
157	mt park	Dec 7, 2011 8:09 AM

**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

158	Canals, CT River, Fishlift	Dec 6, 2011 1:37 PM
159	Open Square, Pulaski Park	Dec 6, 2011 6:24 AM
160	the canals, then mt tom	Dec 6, 2011 6:11 AM
161	Mt. Tom	Dec 5, 2011 8:40 PM
162	The reservoirs	Dec 5, 2011 6:05 PM
163	Connecticut River views - reservation	Dec 5, 2011 6:02 PM
164	Merry Go Round	Dec 5, 2011 9:21 AM
165	the dam, the dinosaur tracks, the canals,	Dec 5, 2011 9:18 AM
166	I don't as I have never been to the scenic views	Dec 5, 2011 9:10 AM
167	Mt Tom	Dec 5, 2011 9:08 AM
168	Mount Tom Fire Tower	Dec 5, 2011 8:58 AM
169	The canals/ Canal Walk, Open Square, galleries, City Hall, Heritage Park.	Dec 5, 2011 8:42 AM
170	same as above	Dec 5, 2011 8:26 AM
171	the canals	Dec 5, 2011 7:28 AM
172	Wistariahurst; downtown; Ashley / Whiting Reservoirs	Dec 5, 2011 7:13 AM
173	do not have out of town visitors	Dec 5, 2011 7:09 AM
174	dinosaur tracks and view from soliders home.	Dec 4, 2011 7:42 AM
175	Whiting Street Reservoir	Dec 2, 2011 8:29 PM
176	City Hall, Heritage Park, Mt Tom, Community College	Dec 2, 2011 2:59 PM
177	The Dam, Mt Park/Tom, Holyoke Merry-Go-Round	Dec 2, 2011 1:38 PM
178	The Canals	Dec 2, 2011 10:44 AM
179	M&M trail views; Scotts Tower	Dec 1, 2011 8:27 PM
180	Roberts sports complex	Dec 1, 2011 12:56 PM
181	Ct river	Dec 1, 2011 12:19 PM
182	Canals and mill buildings	Dec 1, 2011 7:08 AM
183	Ashley Reservoir	Dec 1, 2011 6:37 AM
184	Mt. Tom, City Hall, Heritage Park, Springdale Park, Ct. River, Dam...	Nov 30, 2011 7:40 PM

**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

185	Heritage Park, The Merry Go Round, The Children's Museum, Ashley Reservoir. In the summer El Festival de la Familia Hispana, Nuestras Raices farm.	Nov 29, 2011 8:20 PM
186	Merry Go Round, Mt. Tom Reservation	Nov 29, 2011 5:24 PM
187	The Reservation	Nov 29, 2011 4:13 PM
188	Open Square	Nov 29, 2011 4:00 PM
189	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 2:14 PM
190	Ashley Res.	Nov 29, 2011 2:07 PM
191	Mt. Tom, the canals, the fish ladder	Nov 29, 2011 1:51 PM
192	MT Tom Whiting reservoir	Nov 29, 2011 1:27 PM
193	Roberts Field	Nov 29, 2011 1:26 PM
194	Dinosaur Tracks, The Boat House, Nuestras Raices, West Holyoke and the Highlands, the buildings all over the city specially City Hall and Heritage Park, the Children's' Museum the Volleyball Hall of Fame and the parks.	Nov 29, 2011 1:09 PM
195	the river, fish lift, city hall	Nov 29, 2011 12:01 PM
196	Whiting Street Reservoir	Nov 29, 2011 11:35 AM
197	Canals and mills	Nov 29, 2011 11:13 AM
198	The best thing to show people in hoyloke is the suprisingly active downtown life, that often goes unnoticed.	Nov 29, 2011 11:09 AM
199	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 10:38 AM
200	Mt Tom - Mt Park	Nov 29, 2011 9:55 AM
201	Mt.Tom Reservations, Ashley and Whiting Reservoir	Nov 29, 2011 9:54 AM
202	Historic Holyoke	Nov 29, 2011 9:47 AM
203	Heritage Park and the children's museum.	Nov 29, 2011 9:47 AM
204	Heritage Park	Nov 29, 2011 9:26 AM
205	Mt. Tom	Nov 29, 2011 8:53 AM
206	back of City Hall in Heritage Park on bench near canal at sunset	Nov 29, 2011 8:46 AM
207	Both downtown and Mt Tom so they see how incredible we are.	Nov 29, 2011 8:28 AM
208	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 8:17 AM
209	Mt. Tom	Nov 29, 2011 8:16 AM



**Page 7, Q20. What is your favorite place to show visitors when they come to Holyoke?**

210	Open Square	Nov 29, 2011 8:16 AM
211	The old paper mills. Both my father and grandfather worked in them. Also the canals	Nov 29, 2011 8:09 AM
212	Mt. Tom	Nov 29, 2011 7:59 AM
213	Mt Tom	Nov 29, 2011 7:32 AM

**Page 9, Q24. Please rank, on a scale of 1-4, what you think should be the City's Open Space preservation priorities (maximum of four choices):**

1	unfortunately this question only allows limited response. Each one of these questions deserves to be rated	Feb 14, 2012 7:07 AM
2	stop half of the city people from leeching off the other half	Jan 8, 2012 2:51 PM
3	The city should be concerned with all of these things. Keeping in mind with all of it, safety.	Jan 1, 2012 10:49 AM
4	All of these important and should be considered high priority	Dec 30, 2011 11:02 AM
5	continue farmers market at open square, increase awareness	Dec 16, 2011 2:59 PM
6	all are 4, they kept cancelling each other out	Dec 16, 2011 8:54 AM
7	bike paths	Dec 16, 2011 7:38 AM
8	Anything that maintains natural, unspoiled areas	Dec 15, 2011 8:34 AM
9	I feel the city needs to invest in profitable revenue At this Time. Holyoke's Economy is inportant	Dec 15, 2011 7:40 AM
10	Dog parks	Dec 13, 2011 8:06 AM
11	Places for teens to go to.	Dec 8, 2011 6:31 PM

**Page 10, Q26. What about nature, or the outdoors, is important to you?**

1	learning to kayak was great !!	Feb 5, 2012 11:58 AM
2	healthy way to get exercise and clear the mind of daily stresses	Jan 23, 2012 8:32 AM
3	Connection to the land	Jan 10, 2012 11:10 AM
4	growing food	Dec 30, 2011 3:35 PM
5	free or low cost to visit	Dec 29, 2011 6:19 AM
6	Having users respect the rules and other people in the parks.	Dec 17, 2011 2:42 PM
7	Hunting and fishing areas be protected	Dec 15, 2011 5:51 PM
8	safety	Dec 15, 2011 1:35 PM
9	the chance to experience unspoiled places	Dec 15, 2011 10:29 AM
10	a place to go and be safe, to much crime now to do anything.	Dec 15, 2011 8:06 AM
11	Places to exercise	Dec 13, 2011 8:06 AM
12	clean air	Dec 6, 2011 9:38 AM
13	Intrinsic spiritual value	Dec 2, 2011 8:32 PM
14	Fitness	Nov 29, 2011 8:07 AM



Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?

		Years	
1	3		Apr 6, 2012 4:33 AM
2	1		Mar 24, 2012 5:06 AM
3	13		Mar 11, 2012 7:22 AM
4	1		Feb 14, 2012 7:09 AM
5	5		Feb 5, 2012 11:59 AM
6	4		Jan 23, 2012 8:33 AM
7	10		Jan 23, 2012 7:09 AM
8	25		Jan 19, 2012 5:47 PM
9	55		Jan 16, 2012 5:29 PM
10	20		Jan 16, 2012 8:57 AM
11	5		Jan 15, 2012 8:23 PM
12	41		Jan 12, 2012 12:06 PM
13	2		Jan 11, 2012 6:25 PM
14	16		Jan 10, 2012 5:01 PM
15	24		Jan 10, 2012 12:29 PM
16	7		Jan 10, 2012 11:10 AM
17	7		Jan 9, 2012 7:37 PM
18	22		Jan 9, 2012 1:46 PM
19	40		Jan 8, 2012 2:53 PM
21	3		Jan 5, 2012 7:09 PM
22	1		Jan 5, 2012 9:28 AM
23	39		Jan 5, 2012 8:58 AM
24	14		Jan 4, 2012 7:20 PM
25	22		Jan 4, 2012 12:05 PM
26	41		Jan 4, 2012 11:10 AM
27	4		Jan 4, 2012 8:52 AM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

28	55	Jan 4, 2012 7:39 AM
29	20	Jan 3, 2012 6:15 PM
30	0	Jan 3, 2012 3:59 PM
31	11	Jan 3, 2012 9:51 AM
32	3	Jan 2, 2012 5:52 PM
33	11	Jan 2, 2012 1:38 PM
34	2	Jan 2, 2012 12:21 PM
35	13	Jan 2, 2012 10:46 AM
36	4	Jan 1, 2012 10:52 AM
37	24	Dec 31, 2011 8:17 PM
38	9	Dec 31, 2011 4:46 PM
39	8	Dec 31, 2011 10:25 AM
40	4	Dec 30, 2011 4:52 PM
41	8	Dec 30, 2011 3:35 PM
42	6	Dec 30, 2011 1:39 PM
43	35	Dec 30, 2011 1:18 PM
44	8	Dec 30, 2011 1:14 PM
45	8	Dec 30, 2011 12:44 PM
46	5	Dec 30, 2011 12:13 PM
47	6	Dec 30, 2011 11:47 AM
49	10	Dec 30, 2011 10:58 AM
50	5	Dec 30, 2011 10:57 AM
51	3	Dec 30, 2011 8:50 AM
52	13	Dec 29, 2011 3:21 PM
53	12	Dec 29, 2011 1:24 PM
54	4	Dec 29, 2011 6:22 AM
55	30	Dec 27, 2011 10:46 AM

Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?

56	1	Dec 26, 2011 7:51 AM
57	1	Dec 25, 2011 7:06 PM
58	43	Dec 25, 2011 9:45 AM
59	15	Dec 22, 2011 6:56 AM
60	2	Dec 22, 2011 6:14 AM
61	8	Dec 21, 2011 7:01 PM
62	56	Dec 21, 2011 2:45 PM
63	52	Dec 21, 2011 1:28 PM
64	17	Dec 21, 2011 11:07 AM
65	18	Dec 20, 2011 7:54 PM
66	36	Dec 20, 2011 3:40 PM
67	35	Dec 19, 2011 7:47 AM
68	8	Dec 19, 2011 5:27 AM
69	22	Dec 18, 2011 5:32 PM
70	25	Dec 18, 2011 2:53 PM
71	20	Dec 18, 2011 2:29 PM
72	9	Dec 18, 2011 11:11 AM
73	30	Dec 18, 2011 10:49 AM
74	64	Dec 18, 2011 8:49 AM
75	45	Dec 18, 2011 8:02 AM
76	1	Dec 18, 2011 6:22 AM
77	41	Dec 17, 2011 2:43 PM
78	31	Dec 17, 2011 10:20 AM
79	4	Dec 17, 2011 8:44 AM
80	21	Dec 16, 2011 3:00 PM
81	32	Dec 16, 2011 11:19 AM
82	65	Dec 16, 2011 8:58 AM



**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

83	50	Dec 16, 2011 8:41 AM
84	29	Dec 16, 2011 8:17 AM
85	7	Dec 16, 2011 8:02 AM
86	25	Dec 16, 2011 7:40 AM
87	48	Dec 16, 2011 7:03 AM
88	8	Dec 16, 2011 6:41 AM
89	60	Dec 16, 2011 5:58 AM
90	35	Dec 16, 2011 4:06 AM
91	20	Dec 15, 2011 8:54 PM
92	65	Dec 15, 2011 8:38 PM
93	4	Dec 15, 2011 6:49 PM
94	6	Dec 15, 2011 5:56 PM
95	50	Dec 15, 2011 5:53 PM
96	5	Dec 15, 2011 5:16 PM
97	35	Dec 15, 2011 3:28 PM
98	43	Dec 15, 2011 3:12 PM
99	55	Dec 15, 2011 2:40 PM
100	30	Dec 15, 2011 2:31 PM
101	37	Dec 15, 2011 1:36 PM
102	38	Dec 15, 2011 12:38 PM
103	2	Dec 15, 2011 12:16 PM
104	23	Dec 15, 2011 11:28 AM
105	24	Dec 15, 2011 10:56 AM
106	31	Dec 15, 2011 10:53 AM
107	30	Dec 15, 2011 10:52 AM
108	47	Dec 15, 2011 10:49 AM
109	55	Dec 15, 2011 10:34 AM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

110	33	Dec 15, 2011 10:32 AM
111	32	Dec 15, 2011 10:27 AM
112	2	Dec 15, 2011 10:18 AM
113	50	Dec 15, 2011 10:07 AM
114	1	Dec 15, 2011 10:06 AM
115	30	Dec 15, 2011 9:43 AM
117	62	Dec 15, 2011 9:19 AM
118	33	Dec 15, 2011 8:28 AM
119	42	Dec 15, 2011 8:08 AM
120	16	Dec 15, 2011 8:07 AM
121	56	Dec 15, 2011 8:07 AM
122	58	Dec 15, 2011 8:03 AM
123	50	Dec 15, 2011 8:02 AM
124	60	Dec 15, 2011 7:51 AM
125	25	Dec 15, 2011 7:47 AM
126	35	Dec 15, 2011 7:44 AM
127	8	Dec 15, 2011 7:42 AM
128	4	Dec 15, 2011 7:35 AM
129	50	Dec 15, 2011 7:27 AM
130	1	Dec 15, 2011 7:26 AM
131	24	Dec 15, 2011 7:24 AM
132	29	Dec 15, 2011 7:17 AM
133	57	Dec 14, 2011 3:32 PM
134	3	Dec 14, 2011 3:06 PM
135	58	Dec 14, 2011 10:13 AM
136	40	Dec 13, 2011 1:50 PM
137	25	Dec 13, 2011 11:37 AM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

138	0	Dec 13, 2011 8:07 AM
139	8	Dec 13, 2011 7:19 AM
140	3	Dec 12, 2011 1:15 PM
141	6	Dec 12, 2011 11:01 AM
142	46	Dec 12, 2011 10:55 AM
143	53	Dec 12, 2011 7:36 AM
144	5	Dec 11, 2011 6:47 PM
145	30	Dec 10, 2011 7:28 AM
146	28	Dec 9, 2011 7:04 AM
147	41	Dec 8, 2011 9:11 PM
148	16	Dec 8, 2011 7:57 PM
149	8	Dec 8, 2011 7:13 PM
150	46	Dec 8, 2011 6:33 PM
151	6	Dec 8, 2011 6:08 PM
152	5	Dec 8, 2011 5:37 PM
153	5	Dec 8, 2011 5:17 PM
154	15	Dec 8, 2011 4:48 PM
155	60	Dec 8, 2011 2:40 PM
156	6	Dec 8, 2011 1:21 PM
157	28	Dec 8, 2011 12:47 PM
158	26	Dec 8, 2011 12:44 PM
159	8	Dec 8, 2011 12:43 PM
160	50	Dec 8, 2011 10:49 AM
161	60	Dec 8, 2011 9:58 AM
162	15	Dec 8, 2011 9:54 AM
163	60	Dec 7, 2011 2:14 PM
164	8	Dec 7, 2011 1:14 PM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

165	3	Dec 7, 2011 12:36 PM
166	39	Dec 6, 2011 9:39 AM
167	37	Dec 6, 2011 7:49 AM
168	6	Dec 6, 2011 6:26 AM
169	6	Dec 6, 2011 6:15 AM
170	28	Dec 5, 2011 6:11 PM
171	26	Dec 5, 2011 6:09 PM
172	19	Dec 5, 2011 10:36 AM
173	52	Dec 5, 2011 9:27 AM
174	37	Dec 5, 2011 9:21 AM
175	20	Dec 5, 2011 9:13 AM
176	40	Dec 5, 2011 9:11 AM
177	6	Dec 5, 2011 9:02 AM
178	1	Dec 5, 2011 8:49 AM
179	60	Dec 5, 2011 8:31 AM
180	8	Dec 5, 2011 7:33 AM
181	1	Dec 5, 2011 7:16 AM
182	40	Dec 5, 2011 7:12 AM
183	21	Dec 4, 2011 7:52 AM
184	3	Dec 3, 2011 5:16 AM
185	4	Dec 2, 2011 8:32 PM
186	75	Dec 2, 2011 3:09 PM
187	54	Dec 2, 2011 1:46 PM
188	41	Dec 2, 2011 1:14 PM
189	53	Dec 2, 2011 12:21 PM
190	23	Dec 2, 2011 12:18 PM
192	41	Dec 1, 2011 8:36 PM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

193	11	Dec 1, 2011 1:00 PM
194	36	Dec 1, 2011 12:23 PM
195	8	Dec 1, 2011 7:14 AM
196	40	Dec 1, 2011 6:37 AM
197	35	Nov 30, 2011 7:43 PM
198	43	Nov 29, 2011 8:27 PM
199	39	Nov 29, 2011 7:56 PM
200	60	Nov 29, 2011 5:27 PM
201	38	Nov 29, 2011 4:17 PM
202	18	Nov 29, 2011 4:04 PM
203	65	Nov 29, 2011 3:02 PM
204	22	Nov 29, 2011 2:12 PM
205	25	Nov 29, 2011 1:54 PM
206	16	Nov 29, 2011 1:50 PM
207	41	Nov 29, 2011 1:31 PM
208	30	Nov 29, 2011 1:30 PM
209	25	Nov 29, 2011 1:12 PM
210	53	Nov 29, 2011 12:06 PM
211	25	Nov 29, 2011 11:39 AM
212	18	Nov 29, 2011 11:15 AM
213	30	Nov 29, 2011 10:49 AM
214	51	Nov 29, 2011 10:01 AM
215	13	Nov 29, 2011 9:58 AM
216	17	Nov 29, 2011 9:56 AM
217	20	Nov 29, 2011 9:49 AM
218	2	Nov 29, 2011 9:30 AM
219	43	Nov 29, 2011 9:02 AM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

220	35	Nov 29, 2011 8:36 AM
221	0	Nov 29, 2011 8:26 AM
222	38	Nov 29, 2011 8:22 AM
223	4	Nov 29, 2011 8:22 AM
224	56	Nov 29, 2011 8:12 AM
225	15	Nov 29, 2011 8:08 AM
226	36	Nov 29, 2011 7:37 AM
Months		
2	3	Mar 24, 2012 5:06 AM
3	0	Mar 11, 2012 7:22 AM
4	2	Feb 14, 2012 7:09 AM
5	10	Feb 5, 2012 11:59 AM
6	0	Jan 23, 2012 8:33 AM
11	4	Jan 15, 2012 8:23 PM
12	3	Jan 12, 2012 12:06 PM
13	4	Jan 11, 2012 6:25 PM
20	3	Jan 7, 2012 8:27 AM
21	2	Jan 5, 2012 7:09 PM
22	10	Jan 5, 2012 9:28 AM
25	4	Jan 4, 2012 12:05 PM
26	3	Jan 4, 2012 11:10 AM
27	5	Jan 4, 2012 8:52 AM
30	0	Jan 3, 2012 3:59 PM
33	6	Jan 2, 2012 1:38 PM
34	5	Jan 2, 2012 12:21 PM
35	3	Jan 2, 2012 10:46 AM
36	9	Jan 1, 2012 10:52 AM



Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?

39	5	Dec 31, 2011 10:25 AM
40	6	Dec 30, 2011 4:52 PM
41	3	Dec 30, 2011 3:35 PM
44	2	Dec 30, 2011 1:14 PM
46	7	Dec 30, 2011 12:13 PM
47	6	Dec 30, 2011 11:47 AM
48	1	Dec 30, 2011 11:03 AM
50	0	Dec 30, 2011 10:57 AM
51	6	Dec 30, 2011 8:50 AM
54	7	Dec 29, 2011 6:22 AM
56	6	Dec 26, 2011 7:51 AM
57	9	Dec 25, 2011 7:06 PM
58	6	Dec 25, 2011 9:45 AM
61	2	Dec 21, 2011 7:01 PM
63	624	Dec 21, 2011 1:28 PM
68	2	Dec 19, 2011 5:27 AM
72	6	Dec 18, 2011 11:11 AM
74	1	Dec 18, 2011 8:49 AM
75	9	Dec 18, 2011 8:02 AM
76	1	Dec 18, 2011 6:22 AM
78	6	Dec 17, 2011 10:20 AM
81	10	Dec 16, 2011 11:19 AM
82	8	Dec 16, 2011 8:58 AM
93	4	Dec 15, 2011 6:49 PM
94	8	Dec 15, 2011 5:56 PM
96	3	Dec 15, 2011 5:16 PM
97	4	Dec 15, 2011 3:28 PM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

103	0	Dec 15, 2011 12:16 PM
104	5	Dec 15, 2011 11:28 AM
106	6	Dec 15, 2011 10:53 AM
107	4	Dec 15, 2011 10:52 AM
110	6	Dec 15, 2011 10:32 AM
112	2	Dec 15, 2011 10:18 AM
114	2	Dec 15, 2011 10:06 AM
116	5	Dec 15, 2011 9:25 AM
118	8	Dec 15, 2011 8:28 AM
119	8	Dec 15, 2011 8:08 AM
120	6	Dec 15, 2011 8:07 AM
121	9	Dec 15, 2011 8:07 AM
123	1	Dec 15, 2011 8:02 AM
128	5	Dec 15, 2011 7:35 AM
129	2	Dec 15, 2011 7:27 AM
132	11	Dec 15, 2011 7:17 AM
133	3	Dec 14, 2011 3:32 PM
134	9	Dec 14, 2011 3:06 PM
138	0	Dec 13, 2011 8:07 AM
139	1	Dec 13, 2011 7:19 AM
140	1	Dec 12, 2011 1:15 PM
141	8	Dec 12, 2011 11:01 AM
143	9	Dec 12, 2011 7:36 AM
144	10	Dec 11, 2011 6:47 PM
146	6	Dec 9, 2011 7:04 AM
147	4	Dec 8, 2011 9:11 PM
150	5	Dec 8, 2011 6:33 PM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

151	6	Dec 8, 2011 6:08 PM
153	7	Dec 8, 2011 5:17 PM
156	3	Dec 8, 2011 1:21 PM
157	7	Dec 8, 2011 12:47 PM
160	1	Dec 8, 2011 10:49 AM
161	3	Dec 8, 2011 9:58 AM
167	11	Dec 6, 2011 7:49 AM
168	3	Dec 6, 2011 6:26 AM
169	7	Dec 6, 2011 6:15 AM
170	3	Dec 5, 2011 6:11 PM
171	3	Dec 5, 2011 6:09 PM
173	5	Dec 5, 2011 9:27 AM
174	4	Dec 5, 2011 9:21 AM
177	6	Dec 5, 2011 9:02 AM
181	10	Dec 5, 2011 7:16 AM
185	2	Dec 2, 2011 8:32 PM
186	11	Dec 2, 2011 3:09 PM
188	6	Dec 2, 2011 1:14 PM
191	11	Dec 2, 2011 10:46 AM
192	0	Dec 1, 2011 8:36 PM
193	6	Dec 1, 2011 1:00 PM
194	3	Dec 1, 2011 12:23 PM
209	6	Nov 29, 2011 1:12 PM
212	5	Nov 29, 2011 11:15 AM
218	5	Nov 29, 2011 9:30 AM
220	6	Nov 29, 2011 8:36 AM
221	0	Nov 29, 2011 8:26 AM

**Page 11, Q30. How long have you lived in Holyoke?**

224 9

Nov 29, 2011 8:12 AM

226 6

Nov 29, 2011 7:37 AM

**Page 12, Q31. What type of growth pattern do you favor for Holyoke?**

1	more vendors, small business, become more bilingual	Feb 5, 2012 12:06 PM
2	AND redeveloping the urban center, but with park space (i.e., Heritage Park)	Jan 11, 2012 6:26 PM
3	It is extremely important for Holyoke to preserve its historic housing stock.	Jan 9, 2012 1:46 PM
4	Encourage technology growth and "soften" the look of the downtown by planting more trees. Continue work on improving the canals and making them accessible for walking and recreation	Jan 2, 2012 10:48 AM
5	Also for restricting growth to already developed areas. We need to fix what we have.	Jan 1, 2012 11:01 AM
6	development of urban center w/out gentrification	Dec 31, 2011 10:27 AM
7	promote lower taxes and low electric rates	Dec 21, 2011 1:41 PM
8	revitalizing downtown and preserving developed areas	Dec 16, 2011 3:01 PM
9	Protecting our remaining wild land	Dec 15, 2011 5:56 PM
10	any growth at all	Dec 15, 2011 3:12 PM
11	Green growth, more green business and green space	Dec 15, 2011 12:17 PM
12	no casino	Dec 15, 2011 9:20 AM
13	Too much state aid in the City/ Other Towns need to help	Dec 15, 2011 7:46 AM
14	Affordable and decent housing for low-income residents	Dec 15, 2011 7:36 AM
15	Saving all historical buildings downtown	Nov 29, 2011 10:03 AM





Page 12, Q32. What is your age?

1	46	Apr 6, 2012 4:34 AM
2	29	Mar 24, 2012 5:07 AM
3	46	Mar 11, 2012 7:22 AM
4	59	Feb 14, 2012 7:10 AM
5	58	Feb 5, 2012 12:06 PM
6	30	Jan 23, 2012 8:33 AM
7	29	Jan 19, 2012 5:48 PM
8	55	Jan 16, 2012 5:30 PM
9	63	Jan 16, 2012 8:58 AM
10	22	Jan 15, 2012 8:24 PM
11	61	Jan 12, 2012 3:46 PM
12	41	Jan 12, 2012 12:06 PM
13	31	Jan 11, 2012 6:26 PM
14	50	Jan 10, 2012 5:02 PM
15	27	Jan 10, 2012 12:30 PM
16	43	Jan 10, 2012 11:11 AM
17	37	Jan 9, 2012 7:38 PM
18	49	Jan 8, 2012 2:54 PM
19	54	Jan 7, 2012 8:29 AM
20	51	Jan 5, 2012 7:12 PM
21	24	Jan 5, 2012 9:29 AM
22	56	Jan 5, 2012 8:58 AM
23	60	Jan 5, 2012 6:53 AM
24	47	Jan 4, 2012 7:22 PM
25	22	Jan 4, 2012 12:06 PM
26	41	Jan 4, 2012 11:11 AM
27	48	Jan 4, 2012 8:54 AM

Page 12, Q32. What is your age?

28	65	Jan 4, 2012 7:40 AM
29	45	Jan 3, 2012 6:16 PM
30	29	Jan 3, 2012 4:00 PM
31	32	Jan 3, 2012 9:52 AM
32	25	Jan 2, 2012 5:53 PM
33	49	Jan 2, 2012 1:38 PM
34	26	Jan 2, 2012 12:22 PM
35	59	Jan 2, 2012 10:48 AM
36	52	Jan 1, 2012 9:23 PM
37	31	Jan 1, 2012 11:01 AM
38	25	Dec 31, 2011 8:17 PM
39	64	Dec 31, 2011 4:47 PM
40	27	Dec 31, 2011 2:19 PM
41	31	Dec 31, 2011 10:27 AM
42	36	Dec 30, 2011 4:53 PM
43	47	Dec 30, 2011 3:36 PM
44	36	Dec 30, 2011 3:20 PM
45	46	Dec 30, 2011 1:40 PM
46	45	Dec 30, 2011 1:26 PM
47	56	Dec 30, 2011 1:14 PM
48	55	Dec 30, 2011 12:45 PM
49	34	Dec 30, 2011 12:17 PM
50	74	Dec 30, 2011 11:47 AM
51	22	Dec 30, 2011 11:04 AM
52	45	Dec 30, 2011 11:00 AM
53	36	Dec 30, 2011 10:58 AM
54	36	Dec 30, 2011 8:50 AM

Page 12, Q32. What is your age?

55	39	Dec 29, 2011 3:23 PM
56	51	Dec 29, 2011 1:25 PM
57	38	Dec 29, 2011 6:24 AM
58	30	Dec 27, 2011 10:46 AM
59	28	Dec 26, 2011 7:52 AM
60	29	Dec 25, 2011 7:08 PM
61	44	Dec 25, 2011 9:45 AM
62	30	Dec 23, 2011 1:27 PM
63	49	Dec 22, 2011 6:57 AM
64	42	Dec 22, 2011 6:16 AM
65	35	Dec 21, 2011 7:02 PM
66	56	Dec 21, 2011 2:46 PM
67	52	Dec 21, 2011 1:41 PM
68	75	Dec 21, 2011 11:09 AM
69	56	Dec 20, 2011 7:57 PM
70	36	Dec 20, 2011 3:40 PM
71	53	Dec 19, 2011 7:48 AM
72	86	Dec 19, 2011 5:28 AM
73	22	Dec 18, 2011 5:33 PM
74	25	Dec 18, 2011 2:54 PM
75	20	Dec 18, 2011 2:29 PM
76	16	Dec 18, 2011 11:13 AM
77	30	Dec 18, 2011 10:49 AM
78	64	Dec 18, 2011 8:51 AM
79	45	Dec 18, 2011 8:03 AM
80	51	Dec 18, 2011 6:23 AM
81	36	Dec 17, 2011 6:55 PM

**Page 12, Q32. What is your age?**

82	41	Dec 17, 2011 2:44 PM
83	31	Dec 17, 2011 10:21 AM
84	45	Dec 17, 2011 8:45 AM
85	25	Dec 16, 2011 3:01 PM
86	32	Dec 16, 2011 11:20 AM
87	73	Dec 16, 2011 8:59 AM
88	50	Dec 16, 2011 8:42 AM
89	29	Dec 16, 2011 8:17 AM
90	58	Dec 16, 2011 8:03 AM
91	25	Dec 16, 2011 7:40 AM
92	47	Dec 16, 2011 7:03 AM
93	48	Dec 16, 2011 6:42 AM
94	66	Dec 16, 2011 6:00 AM
95	66	Dec 16, 2011 4:08 AM
96	25	Dec 15, 2011 8:54 PM
97	65	Dec 15, 2011 8:40 PM
98	32	Dec 15, 2011 6:50 PM
99	40	Dec 15, 2011 5:57 PM
100	60	Dec 15, 2011 5:56 PM
101	18	Dec 15, 2011 5:17 PM
102	60	Dec 15, 2011 3:29 PM
103	43	Dec 15, 2011 3:12 PM
104	56	Dec 15, 2011 2:41 PM
105	45	Dec 15, 2011 2:32 PM
106	37	Dec 15, 2011 1:36 PM
107	38	Dec 15, 2011 12:38 PM
108	26	Dec 15, 2011 12:17 PM

**Page 12, Q32. What is your age?**

109	25	Dec 15, 2011 11:29 AM
110	44	Dec 15, 2011 10:58 AM
111	31	Dec 15, 2011 10:54 AM
112	30	Dec 15, 2011 10:53 AM
113	47	Dec 15, 2011 10:49 AM
114	55	Dec 15, 2011 10:34 AM
115	66	Dec 15, 2011 10:32 AM
116	32	Dec 15, 2011 10:28 AM
117	28	Dec 15, 2011 10:20 AM
118	53	Dec 15, 2011 10:10 AM
119	55	Dec 15, 2011 10:08 AM
120	52	Dec 15, 2011 9:44 AM
121	31	Dec 15, 2011 9:25 AM
122	62	Dec 15, 2011 9:20 AM
123	33	Dec 15, 2011 8:29 AM
124	56	Dec 15, 2011 8:11 AM
125	42	Dec 15, 2011 8:09 AM
126	63	Dec 15, 2011 8:09 AM
127	58	Dec 15, 2011 8:04 AM
128	50	Dec 15, 2011 8:03 AM
129	60	Dec 15, 2011 7:53 AM
130	61	Dec 15, 2011 7:47 AM
131	40	Dec 15, 2011 7:46 AM
132	35	Dec 15, 2011 7:45 AM
133	54	Dec 15, 2011 7:36 AM
134	32	Dec 15, 2011 7:28 AM
135	29	Dec 15, 2011 7:27 AM

**Page 12, Q32. What is your age?**

136	50	Dec 15, 2011 7:27 AM
137	24	Dec 15, 2011 7:25 AM
138	57	Dec 14, 2011 3:33 PM
139	27	Dec 14, 2011 3:07 PM
140	58	Dec 14, 2011 10:15 AM
141	46	Dec 13, 2011 1:51 PM
142	26	Dec 13, 2011 11:42 AM
143	40	Dec 13, 2011 8:07 AM
144	35	Dec 13, 2011 7:20 AM
145	34	Dec 12, 2011 1:16 PM
146	42	Dec 12, 2011 11:02 AM
147	58	Dec 12, 2011 10:56 AM
148	53	Dec 12, 2011 7:38 AM
149	29	Dec 11, 2011 7:06 PM
150	57	Dec 10, 2011 7:29 AM
151	30	Dec 9, 2011 12:00 PM
152	46	Dec 9, 2011 7:05 AM
153	41	Dec 8, 2011 9:11 PM
154	49	Dec 8, 2011 7:57 PM
155	46	Dec 8, 2011 7:13 PM
156	46	Dec 8, 2011 6:34 PM
157	35	Dec 8, 2011 6:09 PM
158	49	Dec 8, 2011 5:38 PM
159	52	Dec 8, 2011 5:18 PM
160	37	Dec 8, 2011 4:48 PM
161	62	Dec 8, 2011 2:41 PM
162	41	Dec 8, 2011 1:21 PM



**Page 12, Q32. What is your age?**

163	28	Dec 8, 2011 12:47 PM
164	30	Dec 8, 2011 12:44 PM
165	41	Dec 8, 2011 12:44 PM
166	54	Dec 8, 2011 10:50 AM
167	60	Dec 8, 2011 10:00 AM
168	44	Dec 8, 2011 9:55 AM
169	60	Dec 7, 2011 2:14 PM
170	55	Dec 7, 2011 1:15 PM
171	53	Dec 7, 2011 12:36 PM
172	40	Dec 6, 2011 1:39 PM
173	39	Dec 6, 2011 9:39 AM
174	37	Dec 6, 2011 7:50 AM
175	38	Dec 6, 2011 6:26 AM
176	35	Dec 6, 2011 6:16 AM
177	43	Dec 5, 2011 6:12 PM
178	61	Dec 5, 2011 6:10 PM
179	51	Dec 5, 2011 10:37 AM
180	52	Dec 5, 2011 9:28 AM
181	47	Dec 5, 2011 9:22 AM
182	41	Dec 5, 2011 9:13 AM
183	40	Dec 5, 2011 9:12 AM
184	34	Dec 5, 2011 9:02 AM
185	53	Dec 5, 2011 8:50 AM
186	64	Dec 5, 2011 8:32 AM
187	36	Dec 5, 2011 7:33 AM
188	33	Dec 5, 2011 7:16 AM
189	45	Dec 5, 2011 7:13 AM

**Page 12, Q32. What is your age?**

190	23	Dec 4, 2011 7:53 AM
191	45	Dec 3, 2011 5:17 AM
192	32	Dec 2, 2011 8:32 PM
193	75	Dec 2, 2011 3:11 PM
194	54	Dec 2, 2011 1:47 PM
195	51	Dec 2, 2011 1:17 PM
196	53	Dec 2, 2011 12:22 PM
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199	42	Dec 1, 2011 8:37 PM
200	35	Dec 1, 2011 1:02 PM
201	56	Dec 1, 2011 12:24 PM
202	50	Dec 1, 2011 7:15 AM
203	50	Dec 1, 2011 6:37 AM
204	47	Nov 30, 2011 7:45 PM
205	43	Nov 29, 2011 8:28 PM
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210	65	Nov 29, 2011 3:03 PM
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216	45	Nov 29, 2011 1:12 PM



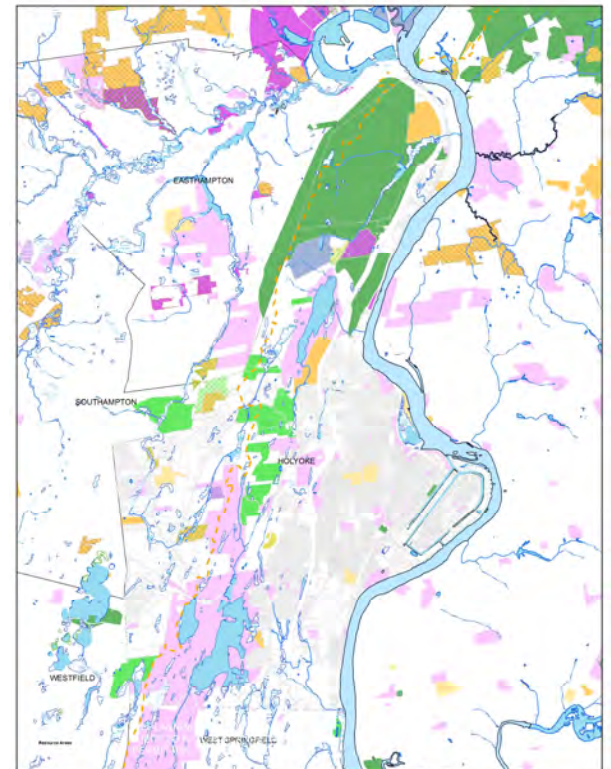
# HOLYOKE 2012 OSRP UPDATE

REACHING OUT, MAKING CONNECTIONS

# WHAT IS AN OSRP?

An Open Space and Recreation Plan.

A powerful tool that helps our community plan for and identify the parks, recreational and natural areas that we need to develop and protect.



# Who Writes the OSRP?

- ▣ Citizens and Residents
- ▣ Community Members
  - Businesses
  - Homeowners
  - Renters
  - Parents
  - Children
  - Everyone!



# Who Writes the OSRP?

- ▣ Citizens and Residents
- ▣ Community Members
  - Businesses
  - Homeowners
  - Renters
  - Parents
  - Children
  - Everyone!

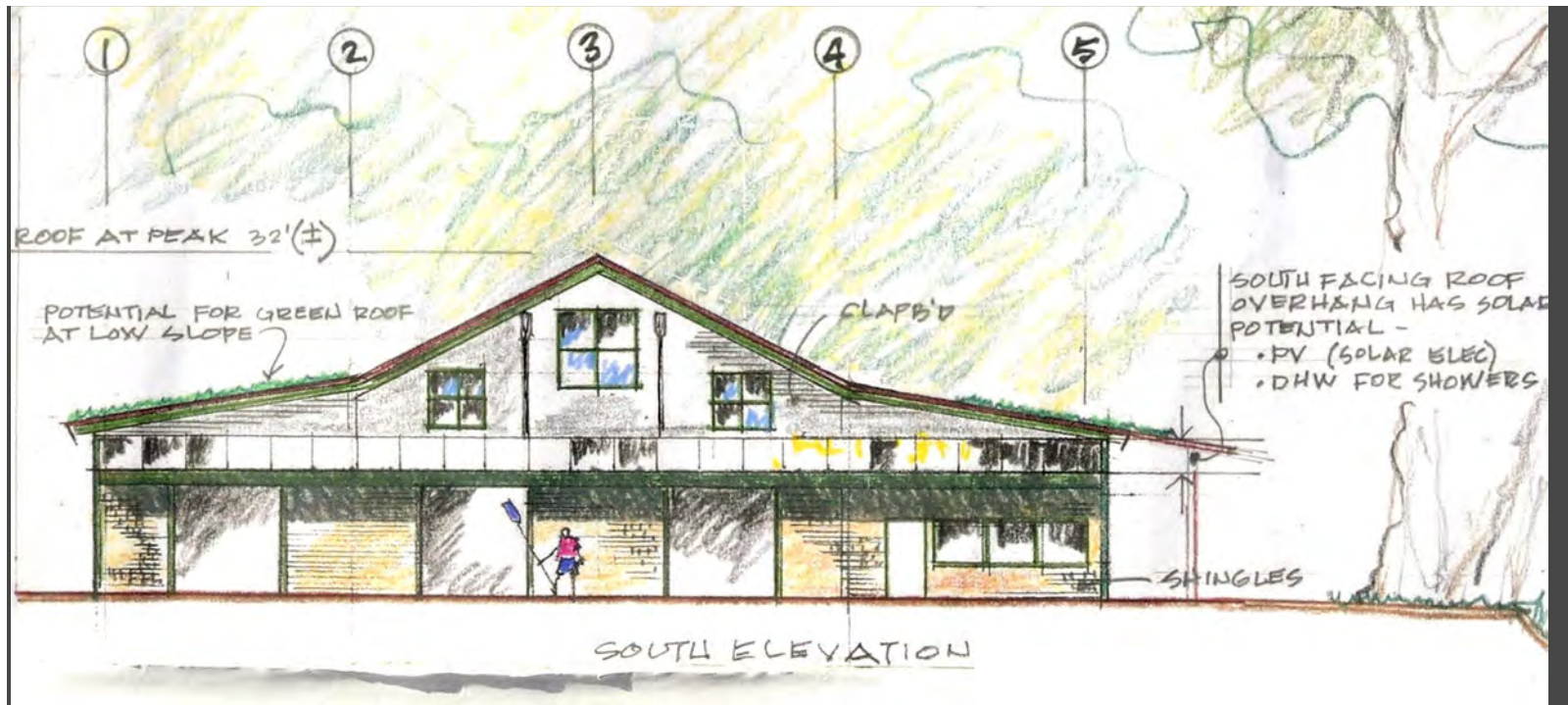




# What does an OSRP do for you?

---

- Enables the City to Apply for Grant Funding
  - ▣ Open Space Preservation
  - ▣ Recreational Facilities and Programs



Access

## Jones Ferry River Access Center

\$1.26 million public boating access center

-Grant funding from DCR, CDBG, City of Holyoke



Access

Jones Ferry River Access Center

\$1.26 million public boating access center

-Grant funding from DCR, CDBG, City of Holyoke

# What Have We Been Doing?

## Holyoke Conservation Department asks for public input on open space and recreation areas

Published: Thursday, December 15, 2011, 8:47 AM Updated: Thursday, December 15, 2011, 8:54 AM



By **Mike Plaisance, The Republican**

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 **2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan**  
Posted by [Christine](#) on November 29, 2011 at 9:53am  
[Send Message](#) [View Blog](#)

The Holyoke Conservation Commission and Parks Department are in the process of drafting the 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan. This is a document that we use to improve parks, preserve open space, redevelop brownfields and provide recreational programs.

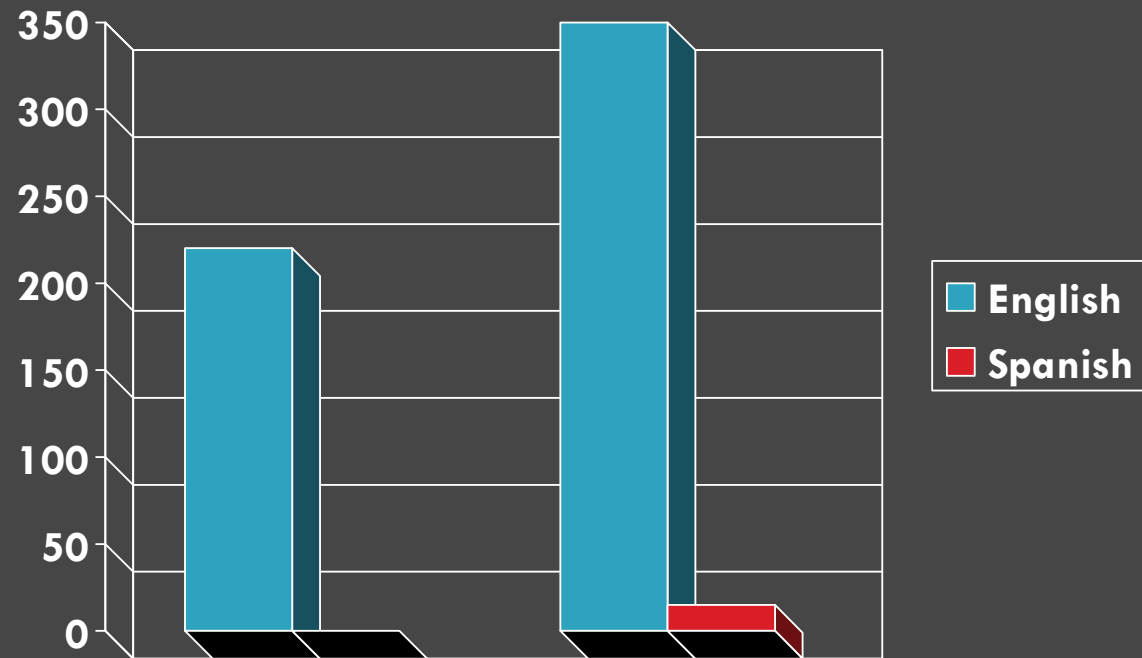
We want this to be a great plan, so we want as much community feedback as we possibly can get! We need your help to make this happen!

Please take 10-15 minutes to complete the online survey in either English or Spanish.

**English:** [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Holyoke\\_open](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Holyoke_open)

**Espanol:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BZWB99M>

If you would prefer a paper copy, you can download and print a hard copy of the English survey [here](#) ; Espanol esta [aqui](#) .



## How has it worked out?

Pretty Well!

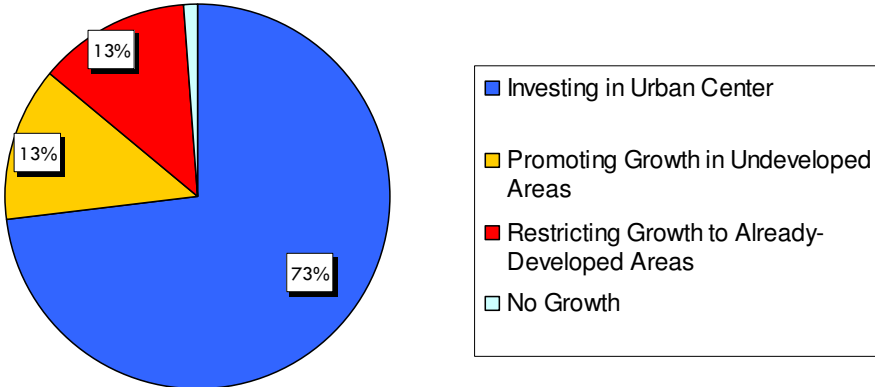
- Overall Surveys are up
- Broader representation of Spanish-Speaking Community





# WHERE WE SHOULD GROW?

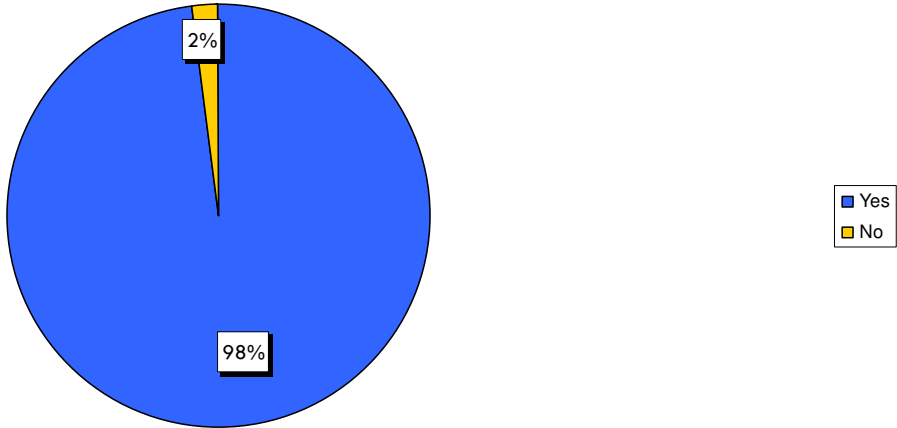
Strong Support  
for Investment  
&  
Development  
of Urban Center



# WHAT WE SHOULD PRESERVE

**Strong Support for Preserving Scenic Views**

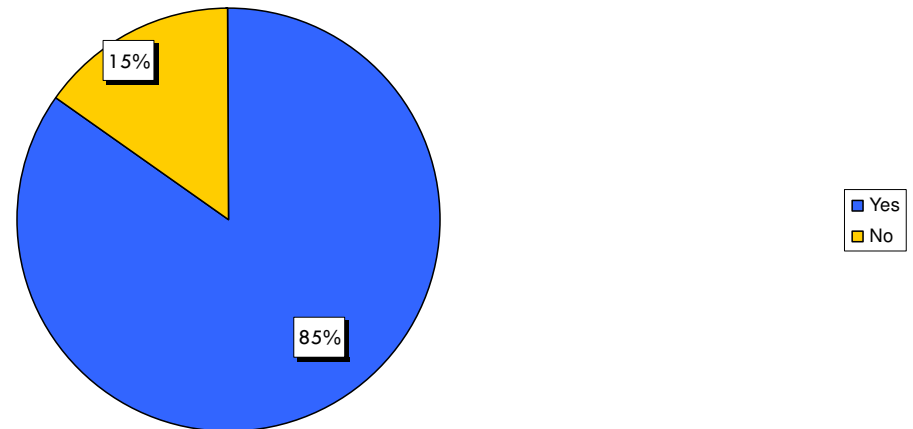
Are the City's Scenic Views Important to You (Mt. Tom, CT River)?



# LOCAL AGRICULTURE HAS A PLACE

Strong  
Support for  
Community  
Gardens

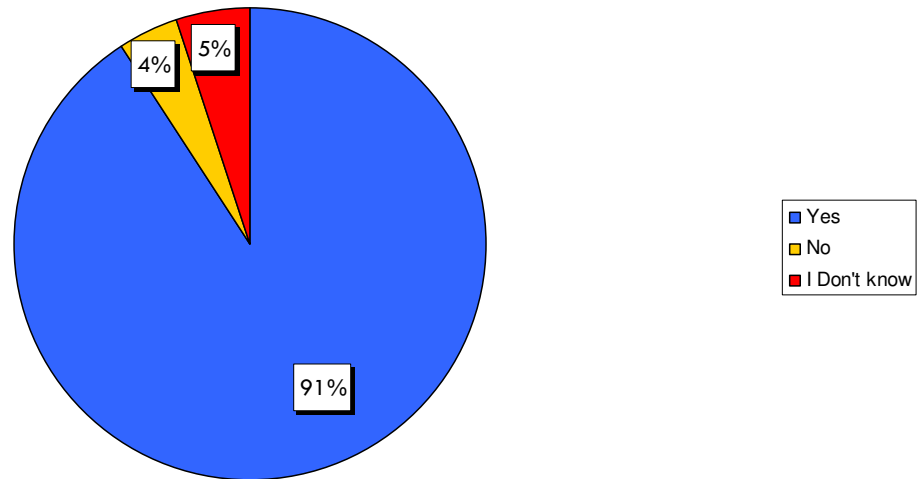
Do you think the City should work to develop neighborhood community gardens to support local food options?



# ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION!

Strong  
Support for  
Bicycle Paths

Do you support the creation of new multi-use paths (bikes, pedestrians, rollerbladers, etc) in the City?



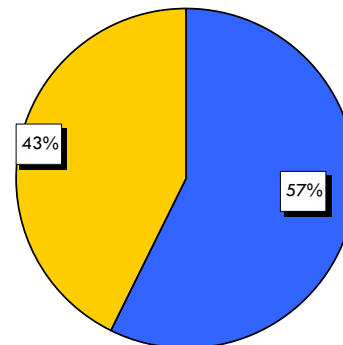
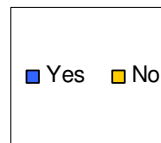
# PARK USAGE

Holyoke's

Parks

Are Popular!

Do you Currently Use the City's Park System



# PARK USAGE

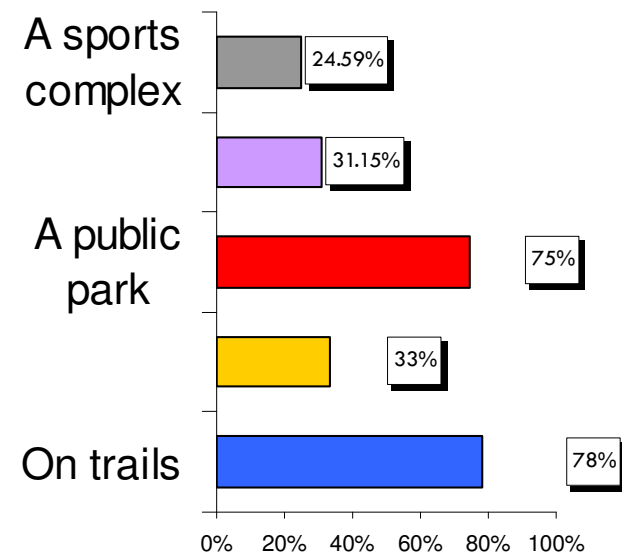
**Parks & Trails**

are

**Widely Used!**

Where do you like to Recreate?

- A sports complex
- A private health club
- A public park
- On my own property
- On trails





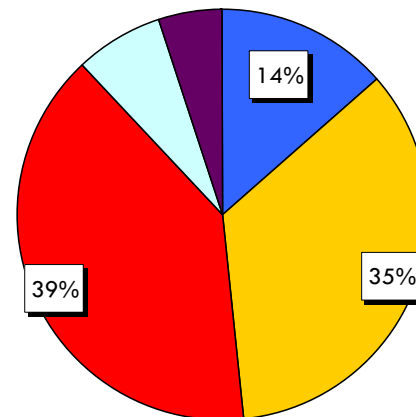
# BARRIERS TO USAGE

Hectic Lives

Safety  
Concerns

Real Concerns

Why Don't people use parks?



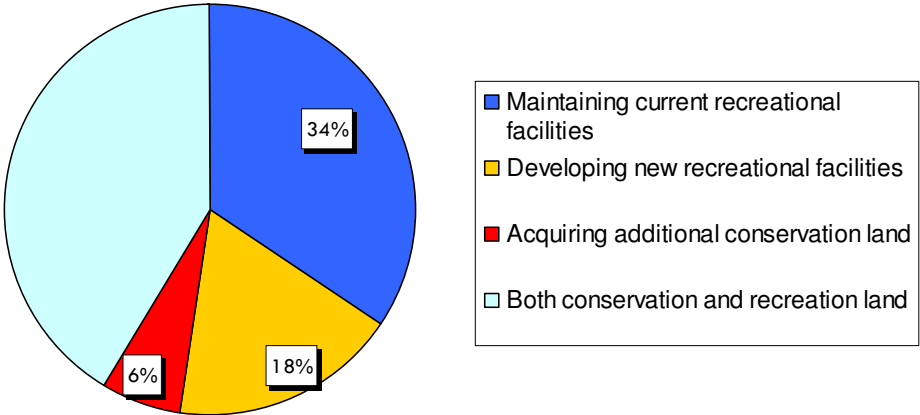
- Inconvenient Day/Time
- My schedule is too hectic
- I have concerns about personal safety
- They're too expensive
- I lack transportation

# WHERE SHOULD WE SPEND MONEY?

Delicate  
Balancing Act

Residents  
Want both  
Recreation  
and Open  
Space

Residents Demand High Level of Service





# Thanks and Next Steps

---

## Draft Plan

- Incorporate Community Comments into Document
- Submit for Community Review
- Approval of City Council

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

- ANDREW SMITH: 413/322-5615 | [smitha@ci.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:smitha@ci.holyoke.ma.us)
- DIEGO ANGARITA: 413/535-1789



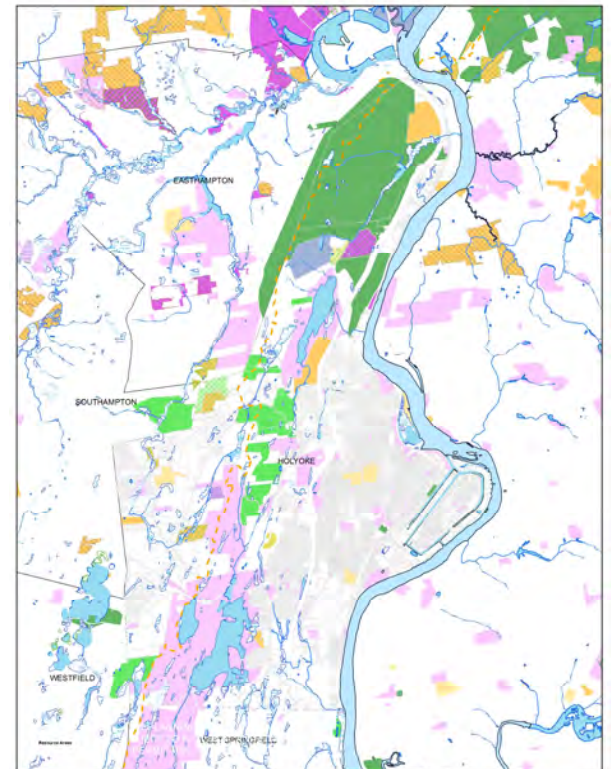
# ACTUALIZACIÓN DEL PEAR 2012 DE HOLYOKE

ACERCAMIENTO, HACIENDO CONEXIONES

# ¿Qué es el PEAR?

Plan para los espacios abiertos y recreación PEAR.

Una herramienta poderosa que ayuda a la comunidad a identificar los parques, áreas recreacionales y naturales que necesitamos para poder proteger y desarrollar.





# ¿Quién escribe el PEAR?

- Los ciudadanos y/o residentes.
- Miembros de la comunidad
  - Empresarios
  - Propietarios de viviendas
  - Inquilinos
  - Padres/Madres
  - Niños/Niñas
  - ¡Todos!



# ¿Quién escribe el PEAR?

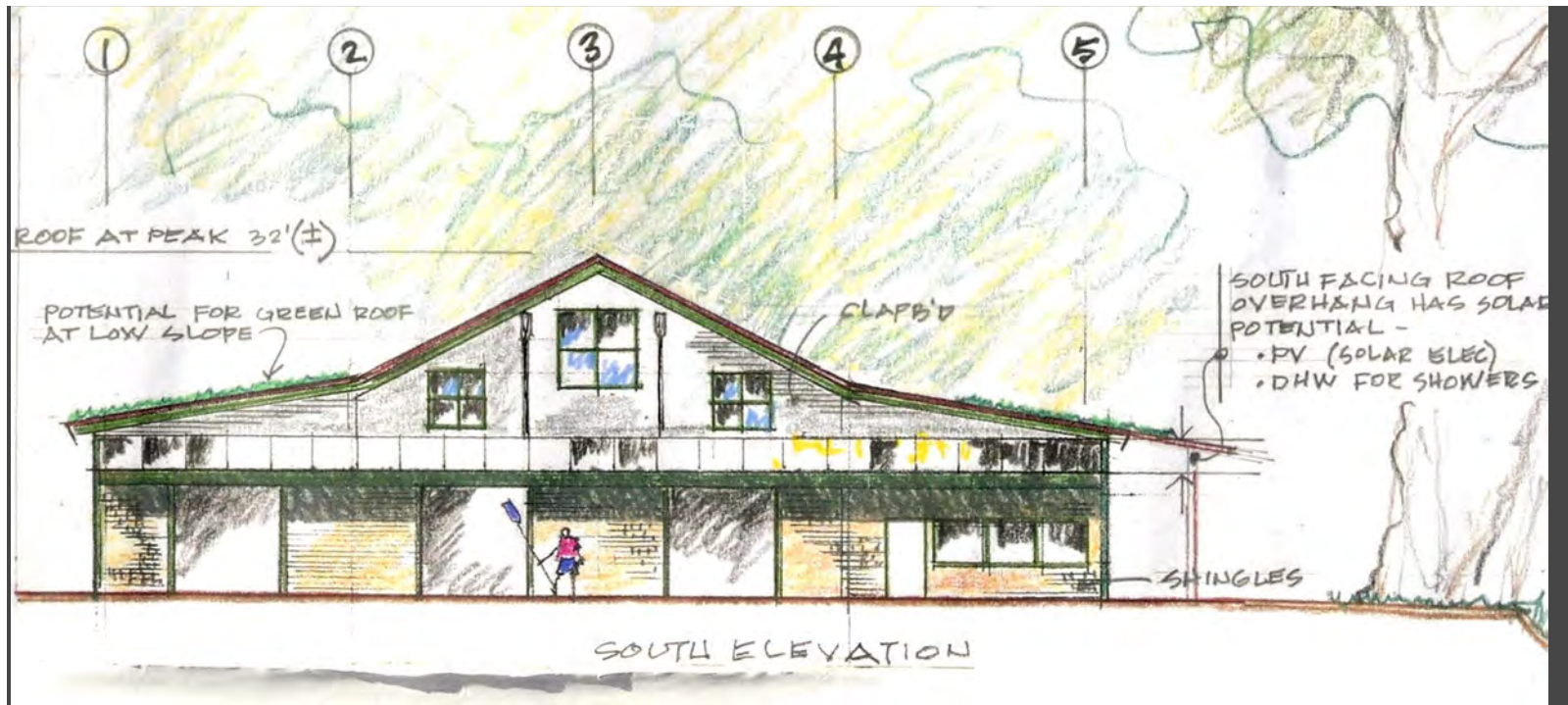
- Los ciudadanos y/o residentes.
- Miembros de la comunidad
  - Empresarios
  - Propietarios de viviendas
  - Inquilinos
  - Padres/Madres
  - Niños/Niñas
  - ¡Todos!



# ¿Qué el PEAR puede hacer por usted?

---

- Permite que la ciudad pueda solicitar becas de financiamiento
  - ▣ Abra espacios de preservación
  - ▣ Instalaciones recreativas y programas



Acceso

Centro de Acceso al Río Jones Ferry

\$1.26 millones centro de acceso público para embarcaciones  
-Subvención a través de DCR, CDBG y la ciudad de Holyoke



Acceso

## Centro de Acceso al Río Jones Ferry

\$1.26 millones centro de acceso público para embarcaciones  
-Subvención a través de DCR, CDBG y la ciudad de Holyoke



# ¿Qué hemos estado haciendo?

## Holyoke Conservation Department asks for public input on open space and recreation areas

Published: Thursday, December 15, 2011, 8:47 AM Updated: Thursday, December 15, 2011, 8:54 AM



By Mike Plaisance, The Republican

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### 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan

Posted by Christine on November 29, 2011 at 9:53am

Send Message View Blog

The Holyoke Conservation Commission and Parks Department are in the process of drafting the 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan. This is a document that we use to improve parks, preserve open space, redevelop brownfields and provide recreational programs.

We want this to be a great plan, so we want as much community feedback as we possibly can get! We need your help to make this happen!

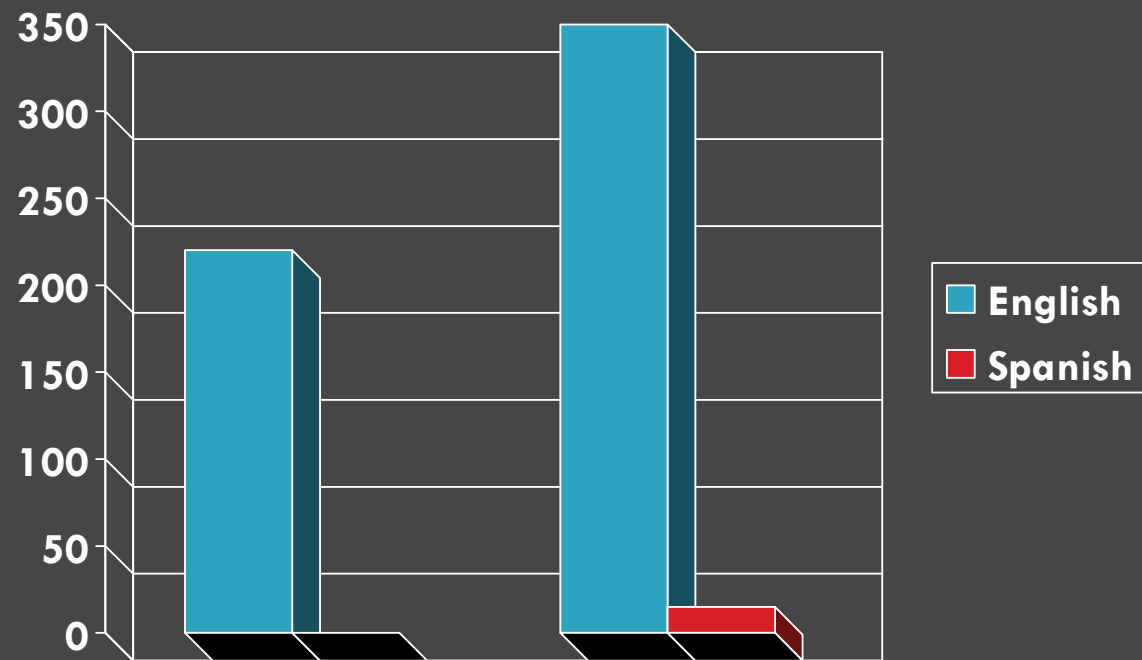
Please take 10-15 minutes to complete the online survey in either English or Spanish.

English: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Holyoke\\_open](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Holyoke_open)

Espanol: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BZWB99M>

If you would prefer a paper copy, you can download and print a hard copy of the English survey [here](#) ; Espanol esta [aqui](#) .

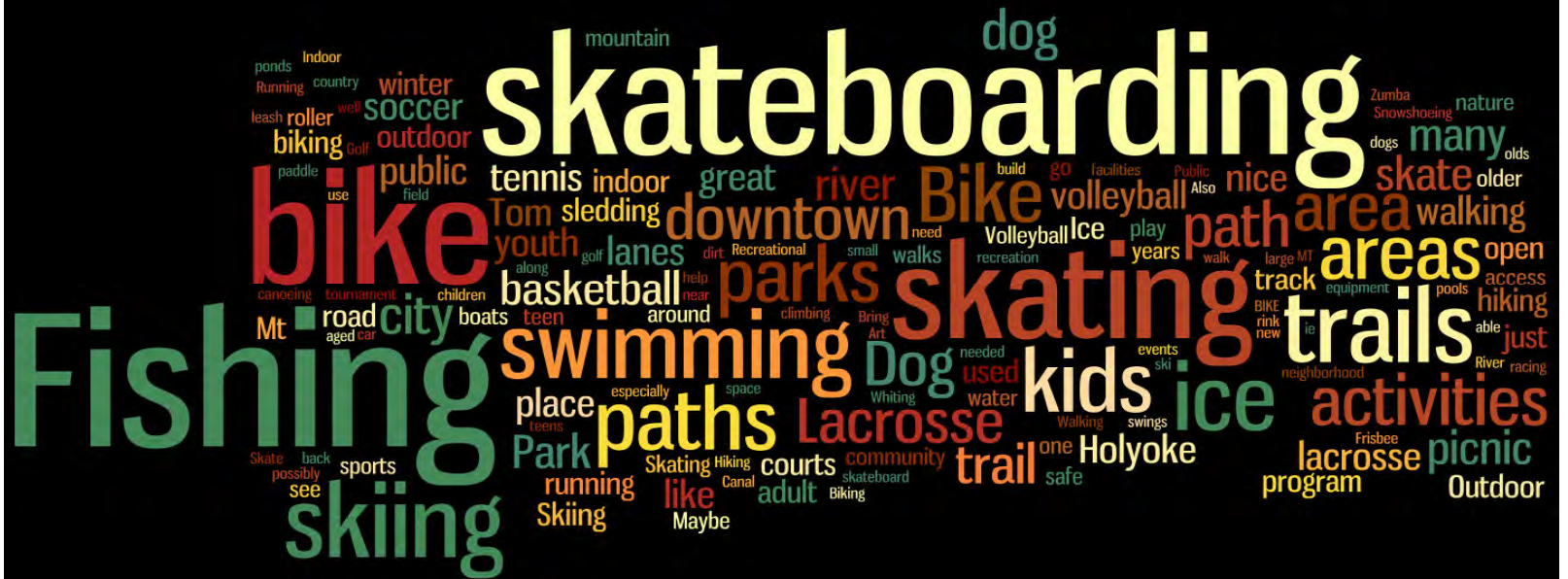




## ¿Cómo ha funcionado?

¡Muy bien!

- Las cantidad de personas encuestadas ha aumentado
- Una representación más amplia de la comunidad de habla hispana



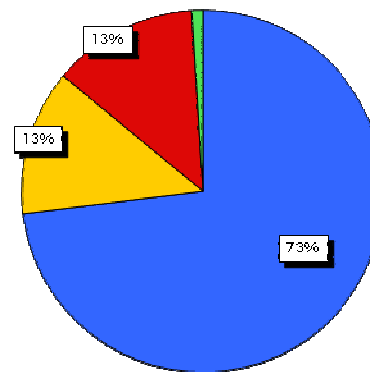
¿Qué los miembros de la comunidad dicen?

# ¿DÓNDE DEBEMOS CRECER?

Mayor apoyo  
para la  
inversión

y

**Revitalización  
del Centro  
Urbano.**

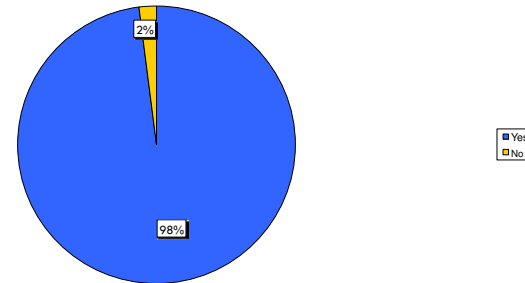


- Revitalización del centro urbano
- Promover el crecimiento en áreas aún no desarrolladas
- Restringir el crecimiento áreas ya desarrolladas
- Ningún crecimiento

# ¿QUÉ DEBEMOS PRESERVAR?

Fuerte apoyo  
para  
preservar las  
vistas  
panorámicas

¿Las vistas panorámicas de la ciudad importante para usted (Mt. Tom, CT River)?

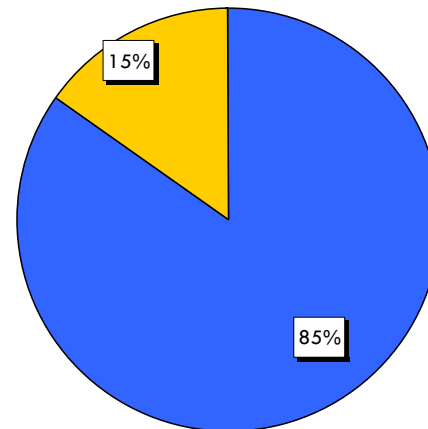


# LA AGRICULTURA LOCAL TIENE LUGAR

Fuerte apoyo  
para

los jardines  
comunitarios

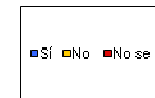
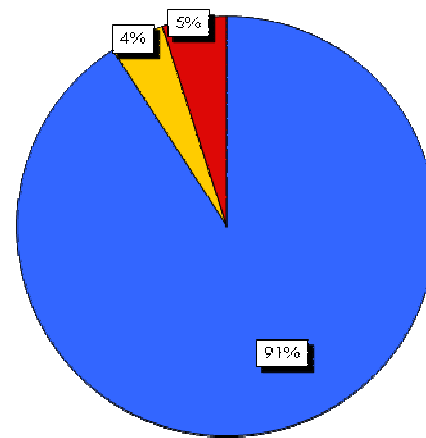
¿Cree usted que la ciudad debe trabajar para desarrollar jardines en los barrios de la comunidad, para apoyar las opciones locales de alimentos?



# ¡TRANSPORTACIÓN ACTIVA!

Fuerte apoyo  
para  
Ciclovía

¿Apoya usted la creación de nuevos caminos multiusos (bicicletas, peatones, patinadores, etc.) en la Ciudad?



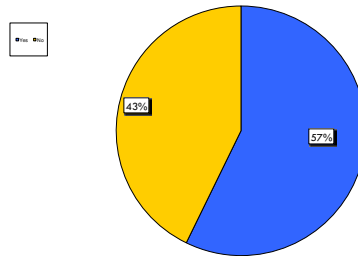


# USO DE LOS PAREQUES

Los **parques**  
de Holyoke

**¡Son populares!**

¿Utiliza el sistema de parques de la ciudad?



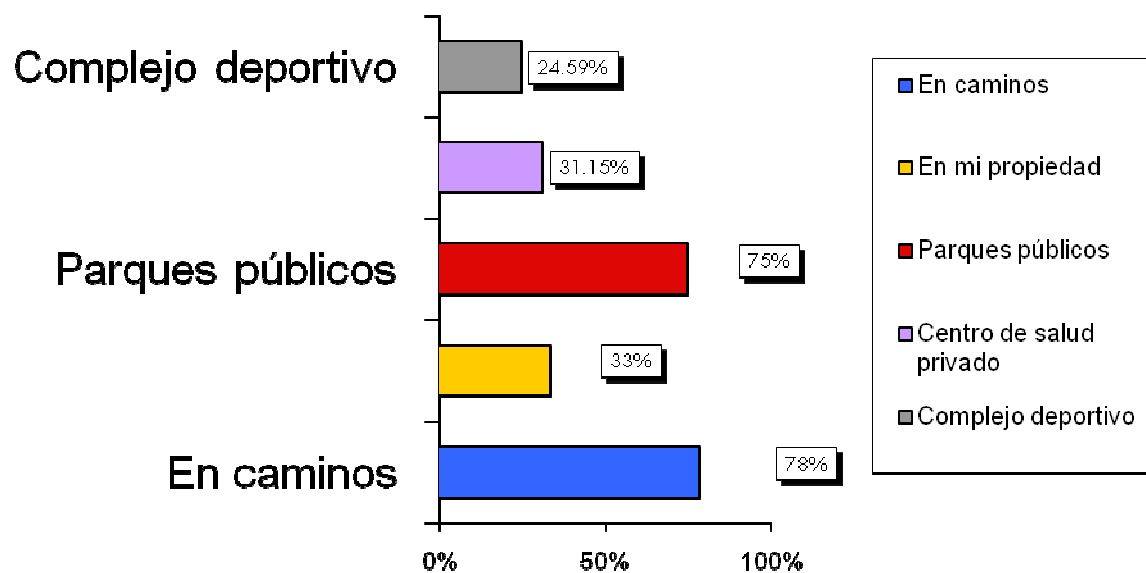
# USO DE LOS PAREQUES

Parques y  
caminos

son

¡Sabiamente  
utilizados!

¿Dónde le gusta recrearse?



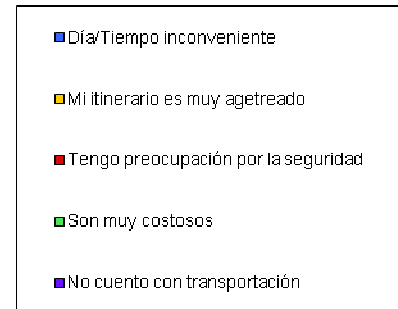
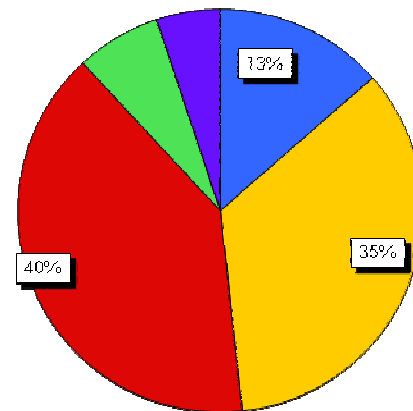
# BARRERAS PARA EL USO

Vidas  
ajetreadadas

Preocupaciones  
sobre la  
seguridad

Preocupaciones  
reales

¿Por qué la gente NO usa los parques?

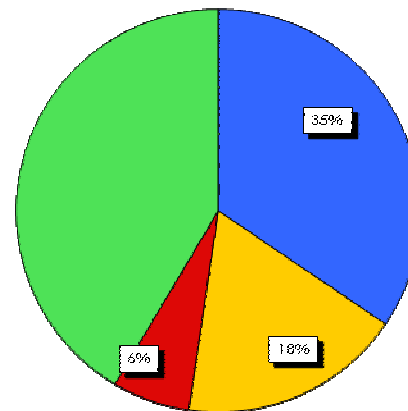


# ¿DÓNDE DEBERÍAMOS INVERTIR EL DINERO?

Diseño equilibrado

Los residentes quieren tanto espacios de recreación y espacios abiertos

Los residentes exigen un alto nivel de servicio



- Mantener las actuales instalaciones recreativas
- Developing new recreational facilities / Desarrollar nuevas instalaciones recreativas
- Adquirir espacios de conservación adicionales
- Ambos, espacios de conservación y recreación



Formato para sesión de *Break-Out* de 45 minutos



Liderazgo, reportes, seguimiento, el rol de cronometrador

# Gracias y próximos pasos

## Borrador del plan

- Incorporar las observaciones de la comunidad en el documento
- Someter para la revisión de la comunidad
- Aprobación del Concejo Municipal

### Información de contacto:

- ANDREW SMITH: 413/322-5615 | [smitha@ci.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:smitha@ci.holyoke.ma.us)
- DIEGO ANGARITA: 413/535-1789



# Appendix C



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs*  
*100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900*  
*Boston, MA 02114*

Deval Patrick  
GOVERNOR

Timothy Murray  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.  
SECRETARY

Tel: (617) 626-1000  
Fax: (617) 626-1181

July 5, 2012

Andrew B. Smith  
Conservation Commission  
20 Korean Veterans Plaza  
City Hall Annex Room #412  
Holyoke, MA 01040

Re: Open Space and Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for submitting the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan for Holyoke to this office for review and compliance with the current Open Space and Recreation Plan Requirements. This plan was particularly thorough and has been conditionally approved through July 2017. Conditional approval will allow the city to participate in DCS grant rounds through July 2017, and a grant award may be offered to the town. However, no final grant payments will be made until the plan is completed.

Once the following items are addressed, your plan will receive final approval:

1. Population Characteristics – please add information on population density, as well as the city's industries and employment trends.
2. Growth and Development Patterns – this section was missing information on the city's zoning. Please include it.
3. Vegetation – information on public shade trees is needed.
4. Environmental Challenges – additional information on forestry issues and environmental equity is needed. Environmental equity refers to taking a look at the distribution of open space and recreation resources in the community and identifying any areas that are lacking in them for future planning.
5. Section 5 – this section should begin with an explanation why open space protection is so important, as well as the definition of the word protected. Tables 20 and 22 (the tables that list city-owned conservation and recreation properties) should include columns on ownership, management agency, recreation potential, public access, and zoning. We strongly recommend against including Table 18 that lists priority parcels. This is a good way to put land owners on notice and drive up the asking price.
6. Five-Year Action Plan – please note that DCS now allows for Action Plans to be written for seven years. If you spread the goals and objectives out over seven years instead of five, the plan will be good for seven years.
7. Letters of review from the regional planning agency, planning board, and chief municipal officer must be included.

8. Maps – the regional context, Environmental Justice, zoning, and inventory maps are missing. Please include them. The water map should include more categories, such as flood hazard areas, aquifer recharge areas, and watersheds.

Congratulations on undertaking such an important task. The city is to be commended on the outstanding effort to make the public process accessible to non-English speaking residents. Please contact me at (617) 626-1171 or [melissa.cryan@state.ma.us](mailto:melissa.cryan@state.ma.us) if you have any questions or concerns, and I look forward to reviewing your final plan.

Sincerely,

Melissa Cryan  
Grants Manager

OSRP revisions  
Cryan, Melissa (ENV)  
to:  
smitha@ci.holyoke.ma.us  
10/10/2012 02:49 PM  
Show Details

Andrew,

Thank you for sending me the revisions to the OSRP. Once you send a hard copy that includes all of the information that you included in the CD, as well as the letters of review, you will receive a final approval letter. Please note that the information must be included in the body of the plan (ie, put each missing paragraph/section in the appropriate section of the existing OSRP), not as an attachment to the plan.

If you have any questions, let me know.

Thanks,

Melissa

---

Melissa Cryan  
Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Coordinator  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617) 626-1171  
[www.mass.gov/eea/dcs-grants](http://www.mass.gov/eea/dcs-grants)

*Conservative*



# City of Holyoke

## IN CITY COUNCIL

Introduced by Councilor **Gordon Paul Alexander**

Ordered, Whereas: The State requires that the City Open Space Plan be updated every five years in order to qualify for various grants and reimbursements to the City, and

Whereas The City of Holyoke has in accordance with State law updated its Open Space Plan, which has been approved by the Conservation Commission, Recreation Commission and Planning Board, and

Whereas City Council Approval and the Mayor's signature is required for the adoption of this Plan,

Ordered: That the Council review the Plan for approval at its earliest opportunity. In City Council, November 20, 2012. Received and referred to the Public Service Committee. In City Council Feb. 5, 2013 report of committee received and plan approved on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays: YEAS 14--ABSENT 1 (B. McGee)

*Louise Kassin*  
ASST. Clerk

<b>Presented to the Mayor</b>	<b>Mayor's Office</b>
For Approval <i>Feb 6</i> , 20 <i>13</i>	Holyoke, Mass. <i>2-6-13</i> , 20
<i>Louise Kassin</i> ASST. City Clerk	Approved <i>[Signature]</i> Mayor

A true copy,

Attest:

*Susan M. Egan*  
City Clerk





Mayor Alex B. Morse

Office of Planning & Development

City of Holyoke

Planning Department

August 22, 2012

Mayor Alex B. Morse  
City Hall  
536 Dwight Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**RE: OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN**

Dear Mayor:

The Holyoke Planning Board was pleased to review the final draft of Holyoke's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Board is thoroughly impressed with the planning and outreach efforts that City Departments undertook to create a document that is reflective of the City's current needs and objectives.

The 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan for the City of Holyoke is a comprehensive, ambitious update to the City's existing planning documents. Its emphasis on the maintenance of existing parks, the preservation of key natural lands, the creation of new bicycle/pedestrian opportunities and the development of community gardens will help to further the City's efforts to develop and re-develop in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner. In addition, the City's endorsement of this plan will make us eligible for PARC and LAND grant applications, which can be used to preserve open space, build bicycle paths, or invest in recreational amenities. We are, therefore, unanimously voting to approve this document and to recommend that the Mayor and City Council do the same.

Please note that this document will be edited, once all comments from all officials have been accepted, to include municipal support for the re-development and re-use of the former Mount Tom Ski Area & Quarry as an action item as well as protection of surface supply watersheds within the City.

We think the Open Space and Recreation Plan is an important vehicle for designing a highly desirable future for the City of Holyoke and we wholeheartedly endorse it as a municipal planning document.

Sincerely,

  
John Kelley, Chairperson  
Holyoke Planning Board

Cc: Andrew B. Smith  
Terry Sheppard

RECEIVED  
12 AUG 28 PM 4:17  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE





Mayor Alex B. Morse  
City of Holyoke

Teresa M. Shepard  
Parks & Recreation Department

---

Andrew Smith  
Conservation Commission  
City Hall Annex  
Holyoke, MA 01040

November 1, 2012

Dear Mr. Smith:

The Holyoke Parks & Recreation Commission unanimously approved the City of Holyoke's 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan, at their meeting held on October 30, 2012.

The Parks & Recreation Commission members are: Jennifer Gilburg, Chair and Commissioners Roger Reidy and Terence Murphy.

Respectfully,

Teresa M. Shepard  
Director, Parks & Recreation



Timothy W. Brennan, Executive Director

July 31, 2012


The Honorable Alex Morse  
City Hall, Room 1  
536 Dwight Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040

Dear Mayor Morse:

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is pleased to endorse the City of Holyoke's 2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Goals, objectives and actions are consistent with Valley Vision, the regional land use plan. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is the designated Regional Planning Agency for Hampshire and Hampden counties.

Increasing linkages between existing open space and recreational facilities in a cost effective manner such as investment in improved pedestrian crossings and sidewalk upgrades are excellent alternatives to the construction of more expensive dedicated multi-use paths. Similarly financing and managing maintenance and improvements of an aging park system is a challenge faced by many municipalities. The stated approach to integrate the work of multiple municipal departments in improving the safety and functionality of the parks, including the use of green infrastructure for stormwater management, will also benefit the city in cost savings through this efficient approach and meet other departmental objectives and requirements. PVPC also supports the City's desire to protect the remaining open space in coordination with state and regional partners.

Sincerely,



Timothy W. Brennan  
Executive Director

cc: Andrew B. Smith, Conservation Commission  
Eileen Regan, PVPC Commissioner

# Appendix D





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# Holyoke Conservation Department asks for public input on open space and recreation areas

Published: Thursday, December 15, 2011, 8:47 AM Updated: Thursday, December 15, 2011, 8:54 AM



By Mike Plaisance, The Republican

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HOLYOKE -- The city Conservation Department wants the public's help in improving open space and recreation areas.

"We want to reach as many people as we possibly can so we provide the services that people want and need," Conservation Director Andrew Smith said last week.

Residents are asked to complete an online survey that will help in revising the city's open space and recreation plan.

The survey is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) by going to the city website, [holyoke.org](http://holyoke.org).

A state-approved open space and recreation plan makes the city eligible for federal, state and private grants. Such money can be used to improve parks, preserve open space, redevelop brownfields and provide recreational programs, the city website said.

Survey questions include whether individuals and families are aware of and use city parks and recreation areas, residents' favorite place to show visitors who come to Holyoke and how much things like rivers and ponds matter to residents.

The Conservation Commission enforces state and city wetlands regulations to protect ponds, rivers and streams, as well as wetlands near such areas. The city has 12 miles of riverfront along the Connecticut River.

Related topics: [holyoke](#)



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chicagofinancialtimes.com/SENY

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UMass fa with goo team

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# Holyoke Flats neighborhood residents discuss closing streets for activities, fixing sprinklers, keeping parks safe

Published: Thursday, March 29, 2012, 12:00 PM



By **Mike Plaisance, The Republican**  
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**HOLYOKE** – Henry Escobar suggested closing South Canal Street once a week for bicycle riding and other activities to borrow a gesture from his native Medellin, Colombia.

“It’s for community. In Colombia, on Sunday it’s closed in the morning. It’s for people, only people,” Escobar said Wednesday.

Escobar, of North East Street, was among 30 residents of Holyoke’s Jones Ferry neighborhood who participated in a sharing-of-ideas meeting to help update the city’s Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Other ideas involved senior citizens’ access to parks and other open spaces, park safety, the need for lighting of alleys and other areas residents must walk in and fixing playground sprinklers.

Others discussed desires for picnic tables and barbecue grills in parks and



File photo | The Republican

The Jones Ferry Access Center at the Connecticut River is an example of how residents’ ideas for recreation can become reality, officials said.

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the need for improvements to fields for boys and girls to play baseball, volleyball, football and basketball.

[Follow Mike Plaisance on Twitter](#)

Since the solicitation of ideas to update the open space plan **began in December**, 350 people have completed an online survey. But only 25 were in Spanish, so the idea was to give residents of the mostly Hispanic Flats a chance for input, Conservation Director Andrew Smith said.

The meeting was at the Sargeant West Community Room at East Dwight and West streets.

Besides identifying parts of neighborhoods residents want improved, a state-approved open space and recreation plan makes the city eligible for federal, state and private grants, Smith said.

The updated plan will be submitted to the City Council late next month and then sent to the state Department of Conservation and Recreation, he said.

Ruth Roman, of East Dwight Street, said fixing playground sprinklers at Pina Park on Center Street would be convenient for children.

"A lot of kids have to go to Springdale Park or walk to South Hadley to use their sprinklers," Roman said.

Julia Rivera, of West Street, a 20-year resident of the Flats, said she hopes officials turn some of the ideas into reality because residents of the neighborhood have seen many promises ignored.

"That's what's happened in this community," Rivera said.

Ward 1 City Councilor **Gladys Lebron-Martinez** said the more people who declare what they want in the Open Space and Recreation Plan, the better the chances of change.

"Once you are in a number like this, you can make things happen," Lebron-Martinez said.

**Related topics:** [gladys-lebron-martinez](#), [holyoke](#), [holyoke-open-space-and-recreation-plan](#)

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## Holyoke Flats residents can tell officials what they want in updated Open Space and Recreation Plan

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By **Mike Plaisance, The Republican**

**HOLYOKE** – Residents of the Flats neighborhood will get to tell city officials tonight what they want in terms of open space and recreation for their area.

The Conservation Commission and Ward 1 City Councilor Gladys Lebron-Martinez will listen to the public at 6 p.m. in the Sergeant West Community Room at East Dwight and West streets.

The meeting is part of the updating of the city Open Space and Recreation Plan.

“When planning for the future of the city, it is absolutely important that we make sure we are listening to our citizens to make sure we are providing the amenities that the people of Holyoke are looking for,” Mayor **Alex B. Morse** said.

The ongoing renovation of Community Field in the Oakdale Neighborhood and construction of the Jones Ferry River Access Center arose from similar public-input efforts, officials said.

The open space effort has included a chance for residents to complete an online survey. The survey is available in **English** and



The Republican file photo | David Molnar

This young lady knows what she likes about Holyoke's recreation areas as she plays in this 2010 photo at Holyoke Heritage State Park.

**Spanish** by going to the city website,  
**holyoke.org**.

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A state-approved open space and recreation plan makes the city eligible for federal, state

and private grants. Such money can be used to improve parks, preserve open space, redevelop brownfields and provide recreational programs.

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The Conservation Commission enforces state and city wetlands regulations to protect ponds, rivers and streams, as well as wetlands near such areas. The city has 12 miles of riverfront along the Connecticut River.

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