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## CHAPTER FIVE: UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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Public utilities and community facilities comprise the framework for servicing existing development and growth in the Janesville area. This chapter describes local utilities and community facilities including water, sewer, municipal buildings, libraries, police and fire services, schools, and parks.

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### EXISTING UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

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#### Water Supply

Janesville Water Utility, a department of the City's Division of Public Works, supplies and manages the City's water distribution system. Water is pumped from eight wells and by three booster stations. Two earth-covered concrete storage reservoirs store excess pumped water. The southern portion of Janesville is served by a nine-million gallon reservoir built in 1928. The reservoir serving the northern portion of the City was more recently constructed, and has a 5 million gallon capacity. Daily water usage averages 10 million gallons. Construction on a 500,000 gallon elevated water tower on the west side of the City was completed in 2007.

The offices and operations of the Water Utility are located at 123 E. Delavan Drive.

In 2010, the Janesville Water Utility, with the assistance of AECOM out of Stevens Point, WI, engaged in a system wide planning effort referred to as the *Water Utility Master Plan Update*. This is the second update to the original master plan completed in 1986. Copies of the complete study can be obtained through the Water Utility and Engineering Department.

The *Water Utility Master Plan Update* utilizes the population growth projected within the 2009 Comprehensive Plan for the next twenty years to identify the physical changes and expansions that will need to be made to the existing water system in order to meet the projected growth. In addition, the *Water Utility Master Plan Update* identifies existing deficiencies in the Utility's water distribution, storage or pumping systems and recommends a prioritized schedule of improvements for those systems.

For the first time, the *Water Utility Master Plan Update* looked at the City's source water supplies (the ground water aquifers) to determine the impact that the City and other neighboring groundwater users are having on these supplies. This element of the study will ensure that an adequate supply of raw water is available to meet future needs.

The *Water Utility Master Plan Update* recommends the construction of a number of other growth related water mains throughout the City and pumping stations to increase the Utility's overall water production capacity. One of the major projects that has already been identified is the construction of an additional storage reservoir or tower and a major east-west transmission main to better serve the City's northeast side. The reservoir/tower and transmission main have an estimated cost range of \$6 to \$8 million. In 2008, the City's first tower reservoir was successfully completed and put on line to provide additional service capacity for the City's growing west side. Minor updates have been applied to the plan in 2014, 2017, and 2019.

#### Wastewater Treatment Facilities

The Janesville Wastewater Utility is also a Division within the City's Department of Public Works. Sewage is collected from about 300 miles of sewer main, and treated at a plant off Afton Road, near the City's southwest corner. The treatment plant has an average design peak flow of 25 million gallons per day (MGD). The average daily discharge flow is 13 MGD. The clean water discharged from the plant enters the Rock River.

The Janesville Wastewater Utility completed two separate plans related to the City's sanitary waste treatment facilities, the *Facility Plan Amendment* and the *Collection System Master Plan*.

The *Facility Plan Amendment* is for the city's wastewater treatment plant and is the third update to the original 1983 plan. This Facility Plan Amendment was completed in April 2021 with the assistance of Donohue & Associates, Sheboygan, WI. This amendment was required by the WDNR to supplement the City's phosphorus compliance strategy which includes chemical phosphorus removal system upgrades.

The *Collection System Master Plan* was completed in early 2009 with the assistance of Strand Associates, Inc., Madison WI. This study identifies capacity deficiencies in the existing sanitary sewer collection system and recommends the replacement of existing undersized sewers and the construction of new sewers to meet the anticipated growth of the City. A particular area of focus is the northeast side of the City, where high growth rates in the future will require expanded infrastructure.

This study has an immediate planning period of twenty years based on the population projected within the 2009 *Comprehensive Plan*, but looks forward an additional twenty-five years to help insure that the size of the recommended sewers are adequate to meet the future hydraulic capacity needs of the collection system. Copies of the *Collection System Master Plan* are available through the Utility Department and the Engineering Department.

## **Solid Waste Disposal**

The City of Janesville provides weekly garbage and bi-weekly recycling collection services for single-family and multi-family homes with 4 or fewer units. Waste collection for larger housing developments and non-residential properties must be handled through private haulers. All City collected waste is transported to the Rock County/City of Janesville sanitary landfill located on Black Bridge Road between Highway 51 and Milton Avenue. A separate demolition landfill is just west of the City sanitary landfill for demolition/building materials. The City also owns three closed landfills on Black Bridge Road. Bundled or contained yard wastes are collected two weeks of the year (one fall, one spring). Other yard wastes may be brought to the city compost site next to the demolition landfill.

## **Stormwater Management**

Stormwater management has become a significant aspect of City planning and development in recent years due to concerns about flooding, property damage, and surface and groundwater quality issues. Many communities around the State are adopting stormwater management rules to control run-off from both urban and rural land uses. In 2003, Janesville created a Stormwater Utility, an operating agency within the Division of Public Works. The Utility's stormwater system collects and channels stormwater through City streets, storm sewers, greenbelts, catch basins, and detention/retention basins. The system has 15 miles of devoted greenbelt drainage ways and 13 collection basins. The cost of operating the utility is paid in water user fees administered quarterly. Sweeping of downtown streets, main arterials, and residential areas is intended to remove material that would likely enter the stormwater system. Streets are swept five times a year in residential areas, and six times a year in the downtown.

## **Municipal Facilities**

Several of the municipal facilities are located in the downtown area. Janesville City Hall is located at 18 N. Jackson Street and houses general government administrative offices including those of the City Manager, Clerk, Finance Office, Public Works Department, Attorney, Economic Development, Human Resources, and Neighborhood and Community Services Department.

A separate City Services Center is located at 2200 US Highway 51, and houses the Parks and Operations Divisions of the Public Works Department. Janesville Transit is located at 101 Black Bridge

Road. The JTS Downtown Transfer Center at 123 S. River Street is scheduled for significant rehabilitation in 2022. The City's Senior Center is located at 69 S. Water Street. The Senior Center is widely used and is a significant asset for the City.

## **Law Enforcement and Protection**

The Janesville Police Headquarters is located in the Police Services Building at 100 N. Jackson Street. The Police Department has 105 sworn officers and 17 civilian support staff as of 2020. The City is divided into 8 patrol areas devised by received call volumes, geography, and neighborhood boundaries.

The Police Department also has an Emergency Response Team (ERT) and SWOT Team. The teams handle cases that require specialized training in negotiations, equipment, or other tactics. A Street Crimes Unit was created in 2005 to handle drug and gang-related activities. The Police Department is also active in Janesville schools.

### **Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services**

The City of Janesville Fire Department Headquarters is located at 303 Milton Avenue and has four other stations: Station #2 at 1545 S. Washington Street, Station #3 at 435 N. Crosby Avenue, Station #4 at 4117 E. Milwaukee Street, and Station #5 at 1414 Newport Avenue. The Department is made up of a staff of 97 employees including firefighters and administrative staff, with a minimum of 24 emergency personnel on duty at any time.

The Janesville Fire Department provides Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the Janesville area. Staff assigned to EMS are also firefighters. In addition, EMS paramedics are state certified paramedics with advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) capabilities. Paramedics can receive their training at Mercy Hospital.

The Department provides Fire and Emergency Medical Service to a 77 square mile area outside the City limits, in addition to approximately 34 square miles within the City limits (111 square miles, total). Services provided include: fire prevention, fire safety education, emergency medical services, extrication, dive-rescue, petroleum tank inspection and fire suppression. The Department responds to approximately 7,600 requests for ambulance assistance annually. Four of the five stations have paramedic ambulances with two licensed paramedics assigned to each at all times. All five stations and the engine company are equipped with automated defibrillator equipment.

## **Library**

The Hedberg Public Library is located at 316 S. Main Street. In addition to books, the library loans videos, DVDs, audio books, and provides access to several online databases. Wireless connectivity to the Internet is also available. The library is part of the Arrowhead Library System. Under an agreement with all Rock County libraries, each must be reimbursed for loans they make to residents of cities in Rock County outside their service area.

The studio for Janesville Access TV, JATV-12, is located in the Hedberg Library. The station broadcasts activities and programs of local interest on cable channel 12.

A café-gift shop, The Ground Floor, is located in the library, and run by a volunteer group, Friends of Hedberg Public Library. Profits from the shop support library programs and services.

A library renovation began in 2019 that included a centralized service desk, more study space, updated technology, and new carpeting and lighting. *Volume 2* of this *Plan* may discuss future expansion of satellite branches as the community grows.



## Telecommunication and Power Facilities

There are several cellular communication towers in the City. The following is a list of the general locations of cellular towers in the City: 5 South High Street, 2815 Kennedy Road, Commercial Drive, 5024 N. Neville Road, 1795 Lafayette Street, 4863 N. State Highway, 26 LaSalle Court, 1436 S. Oakhill Avenue, 2713 Hayner Road, 4634 E. Case Drive, County Road A, 2921 Mt. Zion Avenue, and N. Austin Road.

Alliant Energies provides most of the City of Janesville’s electric and gas services. The northeast side of the City is serviced by Rock Energy Cooperative. The American Transmission Company owns and operates the electric transmission lines and substations in the eastern portion of Wisconsin. Their 10-Year Transmission System Assessment Summary Report for “Zone 3”, which includes Janesville, identifies potential system limitations such as transmission facility overloads caused by steady growth and other emerging issues.

When *Volume 1* of this *Plan* was prepared the City did not have regional broadband or Wi-Fi systems, but was exploring this opportunity as part of a regional effort.

## Elementary and Secondary Schools

Residents of the City of Janesville are served by two PK-12 school districts – Janesville and Milton School Districts. The boundaries of these respective districts are illustrated on Map 1, Jurisdictional Boundaries. Generally, the north and northeastern parts of the City are served by the Milton School District, while the remainder of the City is served by the Janesville School District.

The Janesville School District is comprised of 18 schools providing PK-12 education for school-aged children in the City of Janesville. The District also has several Charter School programs for students in grades 9-12. The curriculum of Rock River C.S./Janesville Academy for International Studies focuses on global issues and business, international exchanges, and foreign language. The District also has charter schools focused on leadership for high risk students, sobriety, and a virtual academy. According to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, enrollments in the District decreased by three percent from 2015 to 2021.

The Milton School District also provides education to school-aged children in the City of Janesville. Growth on the northeast side of the City of Janesville in particular is having a significant effect on

the District enrollment. Approximately 20 percent of students enrolled in the Milton School District are Janesville residents, while about 30 percent of the Milton School District's tax base is located in the City of Janesville.

Some of the other issues facing both Districts include future school siting to serve neighborhoods and population, as the communities within the Districts grow. The Janesville District may look to the west and south side, for locations of new elementary schools. The Milton District may face decisions about locations for new school facilities, an alternative school, and operations space.

In addition to public schools, Janesville also has several private schools including: St. John Vianney School, St. Mary Elementary School, St. Matthews Lutheran School, St. Paul's Lutheran School, St. William Elementary School, Rock Prairie Montessori, and Woodland Adventist School.

The Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is located at 1700 W. State Street. This school for the visually impaired is the only school of its kind in the State of Wisconsin. When Volume 1 was prepared there were 78 students with varying degrees of visual impairment enrolled full time, with other students, receiving short term educational services. WSVH offers state-standard K-12 education, extracurricular activities, meals/housing, as well as the latest in adapted technology to its participants.

**Figure 15: Janesville School District Enrollment 2015-2020**

Name	Location	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Preschool 4 Janesville	527 S. Franklin Street	478	507	525	482	396
Adams Elementary	1138 E. Memorial Drive	373	349	355	326	276
Harrison Elementary	760 Princeton Road	307	280	287	293	277
Jackson Elementary	441 Burbank Avenue	343	356	377	377	326
Jefferson Elementary	1831 Mt. Zion Avenue	386	359	346	356	307
Kennedy Elementary	3901 Randolph Road	422	387	367	358	331
Lincoln Elementary	1821 Conde Street	377	384	364	361	310
Madison Elementary	331 N. Grant Street	448	447	447	397	338
Monroe Elementary	55 S. Pontiac Drive	408	399	397	383	369
Roosevelt Elementary	316 S. Ringold Street	389	368	361	358	328
Van Buren Elementary	1515 Lapham Street	363	386	383	391	402
Washington Elementary	811 North Pine Street	355	335	351	344	352
Wilson Elementary	465 Rockport Road	283	263	250	247	239
Edison Middle	1649 S. Chatham Street	590	583	587	621	636
Franklin Middle	450 N. Crosby Avenue	619	638	650	665	645
Marshall Middle	25 S. Pontiac Street	861	856	881	872	777
Craig High	401 S. Randall Avenue	1,678	1,688	1,626	1,549	1,269
Parker High	3125 Mineral Point Avenue	1,315	1,311	1,261	1,193	944

Rock University High	6004 S. County Road G	39	48	24	74	63
ARISE Virtual Academy	450 N. Crosby Avenue	109	100	101	112	734
Rock River Charter School	31 W. Milwaukee Street	224	211	207	190	202
TAGOS Leadership Academy	1350 N. Parker Drive	63	55	57	62	40
Youth Services Center	210 US-14	10	11	8	10	13
<b>District Total</b>		<b>10,306</b>	<b>10,182</b>	<b>10,069</b>	<b>9,899</b>	<b>9,574</b>

**Figure 16: Milton School District Enrollment 2015-2020**

Name	Location	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Consolidated Elementary	4838 CTH F (Janesville)	81	86	83	80	90
East Elementary	725 Greenman Street	315	326	331	341	419
Harmony Elementary	4243 E. Rotamer Road (Janesville)	243	265	254	249	315
West Elementary	825 W. Madison Avenue	443	443	470	449	358
Northside Intermediate	159 Northside Drive	741	724	711	689	695
Milton Middle	20 E. Madison Avenue	543	527	507	510	499
Milton High	114 W. High Street	1,104	1,126	1,131	1,093	1,092
JEDI Virtual K-12	1221 Innovation Drive (Whitewater)	-	-	-	9	12
<b>District Total</b>		<b>3,470</b>	<b>3,497</b>	<b>3,487</b>	<b>3,420</b>	<b>3,480</b>

## Higher Education

The Blackhawk Technical College District covers Rock and Green Counties with campuses in Monroe and the Town of Rock, between Janesville and Beloit. The Rock County campus offers associate degree programs in a variety of fields including accounting, culinary arts, information technology, and nursing. Diploma, certificate, and apprenticeship programs are also available.

Founded in 1965, University of Wisconsin – Whitewater at Rock County (UWW-Rock County) is located in Janesville at 2909 Kellogg Avenue in the southwest corner of the city, adjacent to the Rock River. Current enrollment is 905 students. The university experienced a 20 percent decrease in students from 2013 fall to 2018 fall. For two to three years prior to that enrollment was flat.

The University offers an Associate Degree in Arts and Science and collaborative Bachelor's Degree programs with UW-Whitewater, UW-Platteville, UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee, where students may earn Bachelor's Degrees from these institutions without leaving the UWW-Rock County. Credits from the completion of general education requirements during two years of study at UWW-Rock County are transferable to any of the four-year schools in the UW system. Bachelor's Degree programs include Organizational Administration, Communication, Information Resources, and Liberal Studies. In addition, to meet the needs of area businesses, UW-Rock County, UW-Platteville, Forward Janesville and the Greater Beloit Chamber of Commerce joined forces to offer an engineering degree program on the UWW-Rock County campus.

## Parks and Recreation Facilities

The natural beauty that first attracted settlers has been preserved and nurtured through the years. With 2,580 acres of parks, Janesville is known as “Wisconsin's Park Place.” The Rock River and many nearby parks and recreational facilities offer a myriad of recreational opportunities throughout the year to residents and visitors.

Four classifications of park types have been identified by the 2016 City of Janesville *Park and Open Space Plan* – Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, Regional Parks, and Special Recreation Areas and Special Facilities.

- **Neighborhood Parks:** Neighborhood parks are primarily designed for use by pre-teenage children and may include active recreational facilities such as a playground and softball back-stop. They can also incorporate passive recreational areas for picnicking and nature study. Janesville has a total of 34 neighborhood parks.
- **Community Parks:** Community Parks provide recreational facilities for all ages, generally serving the one-mile area surrounding the park. In addition to the facilities in neighborhood parks, community parks may include picnic areas, tables and grills, open picnic shelters, restrooms, tennis courts, and a maintenance building. Janesville has a total of eight community parks encompassing nearly 249 acres.
- **Regional Parks:** Regional Parks are large parks that provide active and passive recreation for the entire community. Regional parks generally include the facilities of community and neighborhood parks. In addition, regional parks may have areas for swimming and boating, trails for biking/jogging/skiing, athletic playfields, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, picnic areas, and nature study areas. Janesville has a total of four regional parks encompassing approximately 619 acres.
- **Special Recreation Areas and Special Facilities:** Areas for specialized or single purpose recreation, such as golf courses, nature centers, and ice arenas. Generally, “special facilities” are generally located within community and regional parks and share some of their facilities (e.g. parking, rest rooms). “Special recreation areas” are separate entities and do not share existing park facilities.

Specific park amenities and locations in the City include:

### Neighborhood Parks

Janesville has over 30 neighborhood parks that range in size from one to 12 acres, with most being smaller than six acres. These parks ensure that everyone in the City has convenient access to green space.

### Community Parks

- **Bond Park:** This 12-acre park is located at 201 N. Oakhill Avenue and offers a variety of sports facilities including basketball courts, softball, and soccer fields. There is also play equipment and a pavilion.
- **Kiwanis Park:** This nine-acre park is located at 2501 N. Pontiac Drive. There are two small picnic pavilions and a playground, a soccer field, and a softball field, as well as a 22-stall off-street parking lot.
- **Lustig Park:** Located at 1500 River View Drive, the 31-acre park includes a large mature stand of scenic oak trees with a picnic pavilion and restrooms and an 18-hole disc golf course. It also provides opportunities for fishing along the Rock River.
- **Monterey Park:** This 42-acre park is located along the Rock River at 501 Rockport Road. Facilities for basketball, softball, football, a stadium, and fishing are offered, along with a paved trail.

- **Optimist Community Park:** This 37-acre park is located at 4201 Ruger Avenue. It is largely undeveloped, offering a small picnic pavilion, hiking trail with stream ford across Blackhawk Creek, diverse forest planting zones, and prairie remnants.
- **Traxler Park:** Located at 600 N. Main Street, this 37-acre park was donated to the City by the Lions Club in 1929 as Goose Island. It was renamed in 1956 in honor of Janesville's first City Manager Henry Traxler. The park offers a veterans' memorial and walkway, an outdoor skating rink, both an enclosed and an open air pavilion, play equipment, and sand volleyball courts. Located along the Rock River, Traxler is home to the Rock Aqua Jays, a water ski show team.
- **Prairie Knoll Park:** Located on S. Oakhill Avenue, part of this nearly 40-acre park includes a fee-based dog park known as Paw Print Park and a link to the paved bike trail.
- **Unnamed Community Park:** Located in the 2400 Block of Beloit Avenue, this 55-acre undeveloped park is adjacent to Jackson Elementary School. It was established in 1999 as a residential buffer from a future industrial park. The park is generally flat open space, which is conducive for a variety of future recreational activities.

## Regional Parks

- **Sheiffer Park:** Located at 3600 N. Wright Road, this park is 88 acres of largely undeveloped woods and open space. A 50-foot sledding hill was created with 75,000 cubic yards of soil from drainage and stormwater management excavation work. A segment of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail extends through the western edge of the park up to Rotamer Road.



- **Palmer Park:** This 165-acre park is located on the City's southwest side at 2501 Palmer Drive. Existing amenities include a bike trail, wading pool, sand volleyball courts, the C.A.M.D.E.N playground, nature trails, softball field, nine tennis courts, three pavilions, a dog exercise and training area, a concession stand, and the City's visitor information center. Fundraising is currently taking place for the renovation of C.A.M.D.E.N. playground.
- **Riverside Park:** This 97-acre park is located on the City's northwest side. It was acquired in 1921, making it Janesville's oldest regional park. The park includes nearly two miles of frontage along the Rock River and offers a boat launch and fishing areas in addition to a baseball field operated and maintained by the local American Legion, two pavilions, play equipment, and the scenic Devil's Staircase segment of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail. The park adjoins a 143-acre City golf course.
- **Rockport Park:** This park is located at 2801 Rockport Road on the City's west side. As Janesville's largest park, Rockport Park supplies 268 acres of parkland including hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country ski trails, an outdoor pool, a soccer field, historic landmarks, access to the Peace Park playground and pavilion, and the City's paved trail network.



## Special Recreation Areas and Special Facilities

The City has a dog park located in Prairie Knoll Park, and two other parks have designated pet areas. The City also operates Blackhawk Golf Course at 2100 Palmer Drive and Riverside Golf Course at 2100 Golf Course Road. Other special recreation areas and park facilities include La Prairie Park, Lions Beach, Robert O. Cook Arboretum, Indoor Ice Arena, Dawson Field, Rotary Gardens, Kiwanis Pond, and the Youth Sports Complex.

The City has traditionally developed its parks and open space system in adherence to several standards. The standards that Janesville uses are typical to communities throughout Wisconsin, including: minimum area for parks and open spaces, which ensures that the areas dedicated as parkland function are of sufficient size to be useful recreational spaces; area of parkland to population, a standard that ensures that the total amount of parkland dedicated City-wide is adequate to serve the population; service area standards, which evaluate a park system's provision of facilities in all parts of the City; and recreation facility standards, which provide specific standards for the number and type of facilities City wide, to be distributed among all City parks.

## Other City Facilities

The City of Janesville operates the Lincoln-Tallman House and Rotary Gardens as separate non-profit entities. The Lincoln-Tallman House at 440 N. Jackson Street is a 26-room Italianate villa style mansion originally built in 1857, and is noted as the only private home in Wisconsin in which President Abraham Lincoln was an overnight guest. Tours of the house are offered. Rotary Gardens, a 20-acre international themed botanical garden, is located on Palmer Drive within Palmer Park. Rotary Gardens offers tours, educational opportunities, and other special programs. Rotary Gardens is considered a Special Recreation Facility, a component of the City's Park and Recreation system. Both Rotary Gardens and the Tallman House are highlighted in the Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources Chapter of *Volume 1* of this *Plan* as important components of the cultural fabric of the community, and significant draws to visitors to the City.

## Health Care Facilities

Health care has a significant presence in the City. The Mercy Health System is the main provider of health care services in Janesville and the region. The main facility is Mercy Hospital located at 1000 Mineral Point Avenue and offers comprehensive health care services with specialties in oncology and plastic surgery. Seven associated clinics providing outpatient and supplementary services are located throughout Janesville.

SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital was built in 2011 and is located at 3400 E. Racine Street. This hospital and clinic provide comprehensive health services by offering care in more than 100 medical specialties along with urgent and emergency care for the Janesville community.

HealthNet of Janesville serves the increasing need for primary health care and dental services to the uninsured and low-income residents of Rock County. The clinic is located Downtown at 23 West Milwaukee Street. The facility is located on a bus route of the Janesville Transit System and the Express Bus to Beloit. The dental care portion of HealthNet is located at a new facility on Creston Park Drive.

The Department of Veterans Affairs runs Janesville's V.A. Clinic at 1141 Black Bridge Road. The Beloit Memorial Hospital operates the Family Health Center in Janesville, as well.

## Child Care Facilities

A number of child care facilities serve Janesville including the YWCA at 1735 S. Washington Street, Kinder Care Learning Center at 3327 E. Milwaukee Street, Kids' House at 336 Milton Avenue, Harvard House Child Care Center, Inc. at 2419 Harvard Drive, Janesville Community Day Care Center at 3103 Ruger Avenue, and a number of church-run programs.

There are two Montessori Schools: Rock Prairie Montessori School at 5246 E. Rotamer Road, and Janesville’s Montessori Children’s House at 1219 Oakhill Avenue.

## Cemeteries

There are four cemeteries in the City of Janesville. Mt. Olivet Cemetery and Mausoleum is located at 1827 N. Washington Street, Oak Hill Cemetery is located at 1725 N. Washington Street, Milton Lawn is located next to the Janesville Mall at 2200 Milton Ave, and Dillenbeck Cemetery is owned by the City and is located at 1701 Humes Road.

There is a small grave site on Beloit Avenue where the first settler of Janesville is buried.

## Civic Organizations

Civic organizations are the backbone of any community. The City of Janesville is fortunate to have numerous organizations that serve area residents including the following:

- Northern Rock County YMCA:** The Northern Rock County YMCA operates a branch in downtown Janesville at 221 Dodge Street. The “YMCA” has two pools, two indoor running tracks, three gyms and a variety of other fitness equipment. Courses are offered in many fitness disciplines for all age levels. The YMCA also operates camps for children during summer and winter vacation periods.



- Boys and Girls Club of Janesville:** The Boys and Girls Club serves almost 1,500 children and teenagers annually from its location at 200 W. Court Street, and through outreach programs. Homework help, physical education, technology, arts, and culinary programs are offered to Janesville area children and teens every day after school.
- Janesville Senior Center:** The City of Janesville runs the Janesville Senior Center, which offers citizens aged 50 and up a variety of activities including dancing, card games, art and craft classes, computer training, fitness programs, meals, and trips. Activities are free or cost only a small fee. The center is located in a renovated historic building at 69 S. Water Street and open weekdays 8:00am-4:30pm.
- Janesville Little Theater:** The Little Theater is a non-profit organization that has been serving the Janesville community for over 90 seasons.
- Theatre Unlimited:** Theatre Unlimited offers Janesville quality community theater with two annual theatrical performances at the Janesville Performing Arts Center.
- YWCA Rock County:** The YWCA in Rock County is located at 1735 S. Washington Street. Their mission is to empower women to create a world of peace, racial justice, dignity, freedom and equality for all. YWCA staff and members live that mission out by supporting five programs: Alternatives to Violence, Transitional Living, Hispanic Outreach, CARE House, and Child Care.

- **Spotlight on Kids:** SpotLight on Kids is a children’s theatre company which focuses on educating children and teens in the performing arts through classes, workshops, productions, and performances.

Other human service organizations that are important to the City and serve as number of clients within the City include: Diversity Council, Janesville Literacy Council, ECHO, Inc., Community Action Inc., and the Salvation Army.

The Janesville Community is served by a number of national and worldwide fraternal and service organizations including the Janesville Noon Kiwanis Club, the Lions Club, the Knights of Columbus, American Legion Post 52, VFW Post 1621, Rotary Club, Elks, Moose, Zonta, Odd Fellows, and the Woman’s Club.

## KEY UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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The following are some of the key issues and opportunities for the City identified in this Chapter and through public input that will be considered in preparation of recommendations in *Volume 2* of the *Comprehensive Plan*.

- Aligning the pace of growth and development with the City’s ability to continue to provide high level City services will be critical to maintaining resident satisfaction with quality of life in the City.
- Reliance on the long-range Water and Wastewater facility plans will ensure future growth can be accommodated.
- Proactive facilities planning will ensure the ability of public safety, fire, and EMS to serve the population and expanse of the City, for instance planning for future expansion of community services or satellite location.
- Public participation efforts identified the desire for additional facilities to serve youth and teens in the City.
- Exploring power, telecommunication, and high-speed Wi-Fi opportunities will ensure the City’s ability to compete for economic development in a global, information-driven economy.
- Coordination of growth with school districts in siting of new schools will be a critical issue as the City grows.
- Janesville is one of the largest communities in the State without a four-year education campus; increasing four-year degree programs available is an opportunity to the City that will influence workforce development and quality of life.
- Identifying and acquiring a site for the next regional park in advance of need and rising land prices would be a proactive step to ensure the City continue to provide meaningful parks and open spaces.
- Maintaining and improving existing parks – for example, Riverside, Traxler and Rockport.
- Continuing to link the on and off-street trail system is an opportunity to connect the current system, and future extensions.
- Supporting and retaining quality regional health care in the City is an asset to the City’s economy and quality of life.
- The community’s many facilities create the opportunity for an expanding array of community service, recreational and cultural offerings.

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