



U t i l i t i e s & C o m m u n i t y F a c i l i t i e s

ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

Community Facilities

Community facilities are important to the life of a neighborhood because they provide services that ensure a safe and cohesive community environment. Existing community facilities within the neighborhood area include fire, police, emergency medical services, health care, a park, and a church.

Fire & EMS

Fire and rescue services are provided by the Village of Shorewood Hills volunteer firefighters and EMTs, whose services are based out of the facility at 1008 Shorewood Boulevard. The departments provide internship opportunities to college students in the area.

Police

Police service is provided by the Village of Shorewood Hills Police Department, located in the Village Hall at 810 Shorewood Boulevard. The Police Department currently employs six full time officers, including a Chief of Police, a Lieutenant, and a full time detective. The department also employs approximately ten part-time officers.

Health Care

The planning area has health care facilities on both the east and west sides– UW Health University Station Clinic on the west, and the UW and VA Hospitals to the east. A Ronald McDonald House facility is also located in the planning area, at 2716 Marshall Court.

The UW Health Clinic provides eye care services and is home to a host of clinics, including geriatrics, internal medicine, memory assessment, mental health, mobility, and pediatric and adolescent care.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a temporary residence for families whose children (18 and under) are undergoing treatment at Madison area health care facilities. The cost is \$10 per night, but no family is turned away

because of financial resources. Families stay at the House from one night up to a year, as long as their children are receiving medical treatment.

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile also provides free dental services in Wisconsin and medical and dental services in northern Illinois to children who otherwise would not have access to health care.

The UW Hospital at 600 Highland Avenue provides a full range of routine, preventative and emergency care services. It is also a teaching hospital, so students in medical school at the UW work under the supervision of physicians to gain experience and complete their education. The American Family Children's Hospital, a recent addition to the UW Hospital, is "a complete children's medical and surgical center with a pediatric intensive care unit, an internationally recognized transplant surgery program, a children's cancer center and a family-friendly atmosphere" (Hospital website).

The William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans' (VA) Hospital provides qualifying veterans with tertiary care in medicine, surgery, neurology, and psychiatry. The VA Hospital is affiliated with the UW Hospital, and the two share many facilities and staff. A staff of approximately 1,080 at the VA Hospital treats the more than 34,000 veterans who visit the VA Hospital annually.

Parks

The nearest park to the planning area is Post Farm Park, which is at the western edge of the planning area. At 8.7 acres, it is the largest park in Shorewood Hills. It includes 3 tennis courts, a sand volleyball court, the Village's Olympic size pool and community center, community gardens, and walking/biking paths.

Municipal Infrastructure

Infrastructure in the area is not in imminent need of replacement, but the Village Engineer has stated that any reconstruction of Marshall Court should include utilities upgrades. Desire has also been expressed for burying power lines along University Bay Drive and potentially the rail line. The Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) will be upgrading a sewer interceptor in the area in the near future.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Many goals and objectives that are related to infrastructure upgrades were covered in past sections; this section covers infrastructure-related objectives that have not yet been discussed. In general, it will be necessary to provide adequate infrastructure (sewer, water, electric, fiber optic) to accommodate the increased density that is planned for the area.

Goal No. 1: Minimize the disturbance caused by infrastructure upgrades by coordinating projects.

Objective No. 1: Work with MMSD to coordinate installation of a bike path extension with sewer interceptor work.

The Village could realize substantial cost savings if it is able to "piggyback" on MMSD's sewer interceptor project to extend the bike path to the west of the Marshall Court/University Avenue intersection. Doing so would also minimize the amount of time the area is disrupted by construction.

Objective No. 2: Coordinate road construction projects with utility work.

Utilities work on Marshall Court should run concurrent with road reconstruction. Burying of power lines should be done in conjunction with other projects in the most cost-effective manner possible. It may be beneficial to bury power lines that currently run to the south of Marshall Court

properties under the street itself when the street is reconstructed. Alternatively, lines could be buried below the bike path. Lines along University Bay Drive should be buried when any upgrades are made to that street.

Objective No. 3: Work with County/RTA to maximize the effectiveness of any potential rail stop in the area.

The opportunity for a commuter rail station exists in the planning area. If it is decided to locate a stop along the rail corridor, the Village should coordinate with the County/RTA to effectively integrate the stop with redevelopment and transportation projects. The station should be mixed-use in nature, with commercial or residential above. The station could also be integrated with a pedestrian/bicycle overpass of University Bay Drive so that rail passengers could cross to the east side of University Bay Drive without facing rush hour traffic congestion.

Goal No. 2: Use environmentally friendly Best Management Practices when designing new infrastructure.

Objective No. 1: Consider installation of terrace rain gardens along Marshall Court.

The Village will have an opportunity to improve stormwater management of Marshall Court itself when the street is reconstructed. Consideration should be given to using some terrace areas as rain gardens to absorb runoff from the street when it is redesigned.

Objective No. 2: Consider the use of porous pavement for Marshall Court sidewalks and/or street.

Porous concrete has advanced to the point where cities are beginning to use it in actual infrastructure projects, not simply experiments or demonstrations. The City of Chicago has recently reconstructed alleys to use pervious pavement in order to cut down on stormwater runoff.



Top: A terrace rain garden on Adams street in Madison (picture from www.ci.madison.wi.us).

Middle: A terrace rain garden in Portland, Oregon (picture from Landscape Architecture Magazine, September 2006).

Bottom: Pervious concrete (picture from <http://www.concretenetwork.com/>)

RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

The Village has the opportunity to use the reconstruction of Marshall Court to showcase environmentally friendly best management practices and make Marshall Court a “green street” example, from the buildings to the infrastructure. In addition to infrastructure recommendations included in previous chapters, the Village should:

- Work with MMSD to coordinate bike path construction with sewer interceptor installation.
- Coordinate road construction projects with utility upgrades and burying power lines.
- Work with the County/RTA to integrate a potential rail stop with the surrounding area.
- Consider environmentally friendly construction methods such as terrace rain gardens or pervious concrete when redesigning Marshall Court.