

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Starting in early 2007, Northfield's Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) oversaw the preparation of a comprehensive parks, open space, and trail system plan for the city. This document is the final product of the public process, which was completed in December of 2007.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Given the considerable public interest in parks, open space, and trails, the Northfield City Council and PRAB placed high value on extensive citizen involvement in the project. Through formal and informal meetings and open houses, individual citizens and advocacy groups had direct access to the consultant team and PRAB on numerous occasions. The comments and suggestions received from these interactions proved very fruitful and greatly influenced the development of the plan.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The consultant team would like to thank Northfield for undertaking an open and constructive public participation process for this project. This allowed many perspectives to be considered and acted upon. Through this process, a responsible balance between individual interests and the general public good has been achieved.

The consultant team would also like to thank the PRAB for their participation. Their individual and collective insights were instrumental in considering options and drawing final conclusions. The City Council should also be commended for their faith in the public process and confidence that citizens can help find reasonable solutions if given the right opportunity and planning process.

Finally, the consultant team extends a thank you to the many citizens who took the time to attend meetings, write letters, and make phone calls so that we could understand their perspectives first hand.

Sincerely,

Jeff Schoenbauer, Senior Principal
Brauer & Associates, Ltd.



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