## **Trails System Overview**

The plans on the following pages highlight the proposed community-wide trail system and depict an initial phasing plan for implementation.

## **Trail System Purpose**

The trail system is conceived first and foremost as a recreation and quality of life resource for the citizens of Prairie Village, with the goal of providing easily-accessed and safe corridors for walking, running, bicycling, and generally moving about the city. It is essentially intended to accommodate the following uses:

- Recreational cyclists and families with children
- Runners and walkers
- General citizen access to community sites, such as parks and recreation facilities, schools, civic sites, and commercial shopping areas

The trail plan includes locations of specific trail destinations that trail users would be expected to seek out. It is instructive to note that the proposed trail system connects directly to or within one block of 27 of the 32 anticipated destinations, with the exception of one park site (Bennett Park), two elementary schools (Belinder and Briarwood), and two commercial areas (95<sup>th</sup>&Nall and 95<sup>th</sup>&Mission).

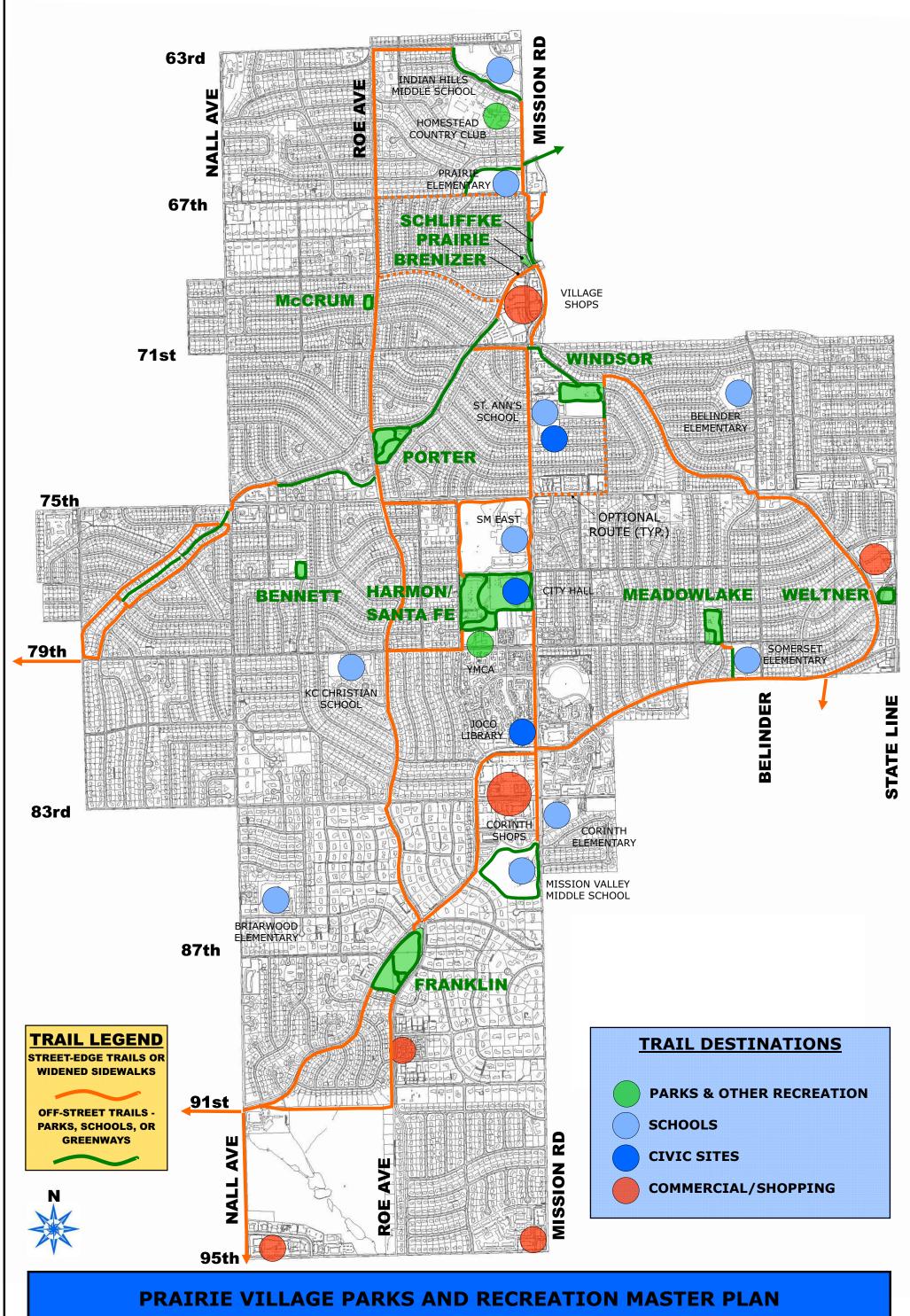
## **Trail Corridors**

The proposed trail corridors are initially targeted for those areas that provide the safest pedestrian environments, comfortably allow for two-way trail traffic, and minimize interactions with vehicular traffic. The preferred corridors for the trails are those that can accommodate minimum 8' wide trails, including:

- Existing parks and school sites
- Wide street right-of ways, where 8' wide sidewalks can be accommodated.
- Stream corridors, with particular focus on the few that are accessible for trail purposes.

## **Bike Lanes**

This master plan strongly encourages the future study and development of bike lanes throughout the community to better serve more serious cyclists and to promote an increase in daily commuters using bike lanes for regular travel to places of employment. A system of this nature is essentially a transportation function and necessitates many considerations of street profiles and condition, traffic patterns and safety, as well as signage, and it is beyond the reach of this master plan to provide specific recommendations on preferred bike lane corridors. However, it should be noted that bike lane developments are likely to be a primary means to connect the Prairie Village trail system to neighboring trail systems such as the Indian Creek Trail System to the south. Thus, future bike lane studies should carefully consider these factors and be coordinated with surrounding communities.



PRAIRIE VILLAGE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

TRAIL SYSTEM PLAN
2009

