



## Pittsville Recreational Development Plan

### Introduction

The charette process yielded many ideas from community members regarding the following objectives: 1) Utilize the green space near Poplar Street for the community; 2) Create an engaging and attractive area for the Geographical Center of Wisconsin; 3) Provide a walking path connecting these areas to other parts of the community. We used the suggestions and ideas to identify themes and create goals to guide our research. Using our research, we have created a Recreational Development plan for Pittsville. The following goals are expressed in the Recreational Development Plan

- Create a more connected community
- Create diverse outdoor recreation opportunities
- Leverage the natural resources of Pittsville and surrounding area for economic success

### Geographical Center Selfie Stand and Wayfinding Map

Constructing a selfie stand at the Geographic Center is one way the city of Pittsville can make the landmark more engaging and attract more people to it. The city of Pittsville can also use this selfie stand as a wayfinding sign, which is one strategy for leveraging the community's natural resources. A wayfinding sign at this location would point visitors in the direction of local establishments where they can find places to eat, shop, and stay overnight.



### Geographical Center Parcels for Future Development

One idea for future development at the Geographic Center is to purchase the neighboring parcel (Parcel #3100633) to create a small parking lot and a trail or boardwalk leading to the center. This development would draw more visitors to the Center by making the landmark more "park-like." A trail also increases accessibility and makes the Geographic Center more engaging for visitors. Creating a parking lot in this location would increase the parking capacity of the site, allowing for more visitors. In addition, a parking lot on this parcel is a safer option than the existing parking space on the side of the road.



### Crosswalk and Signage by Poplar Park

Adding a crosswalk to this intersection will grant better ease of access to Poplar Park and the southern edge of town. Without crosswalks in this area, crossing the road is dangerous for pedestrians. Adding signage to show the location of Poplar Park is also very helpful for increasing accessibility to the parks in the city. Adding crosswalks and signage for parks will make Pittsville more connected and accessible.



### Pittsville Walking and Biking Trail



### Walking path connecting Pittsville

During our charette process in March, the walkability of Pittsville was discussed. The orange trail is one that was drawn during the charette process. The lavender path is one that was made by our team to better connect Pittsville. This path would stretch to the northeastern corner of the town where little walking and biking accommodations are present. It would also connect each park in the town.

### "The City of Pittsville: The Exact Center of Wisconsin."



### Sidewalk Along Highway 73

Adding a sidewalk along Highway 73 from state road 80 to 4th avenue can help connect people to resources within the northern parts of the town by foot or bike. This sidewalk would also have a guardrail for safety and have signage for the key areas in Pittsville. This would help connect the city and create a more walkable community.



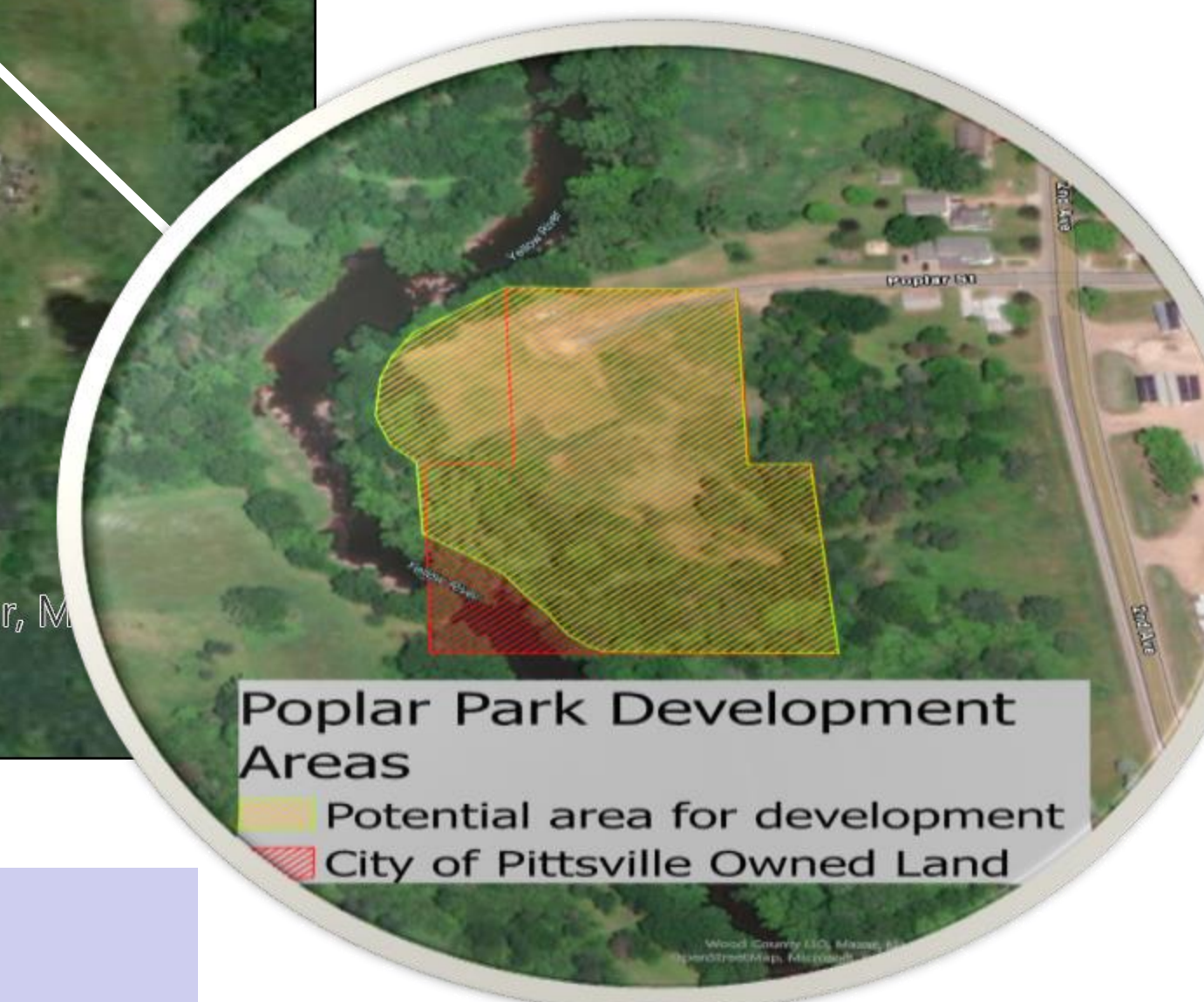
### Roadside walking paths

An inexpensive way of making an existing community is through painted walking lanes. During our charette process in March, there was a discussion about walking paths connecting different areas of the town. Without a consistent sidewalk system in Pittsville, a cost-effective option to create this connectivity is through painted walking lanes. In residential areas with lower traffic, this is a viable option.



### Poplar Park Future Development

An idea for the development of the City's parcel on Poplar road is the development of a dog park. Transforming this unused floodplain into a two-section dog park could provide exercise and social interaction for both dogs and their owners within the community. This dog park would be the second built within Wood county, which would help to draw more visitors into the community. This can help support local businesses and provide outdoor recreation opportunities for the residence of this community. Underground drainage features can be added to move water from the sensitive areas within the park and using non-corrosive building materials can help prolong the life of the park if a flood were to occur.





## Pittsville Connectivity and Recreation Research

### Research Themes

During our charette process, the issues of connectivity and walkability were a consistent theme. After performing relevant research, we have produced three goals to increase the connectivity and diversify the recreational opportunities in Pittsville. These goals include examples from other communities pertaining to them.

### Goal 1: Create a more connected community

According to walkscore.com, Pittsville has a walkability score of 40/100 and a bikeability score of 38/100, meaning most of the errands necessary for households require a car.

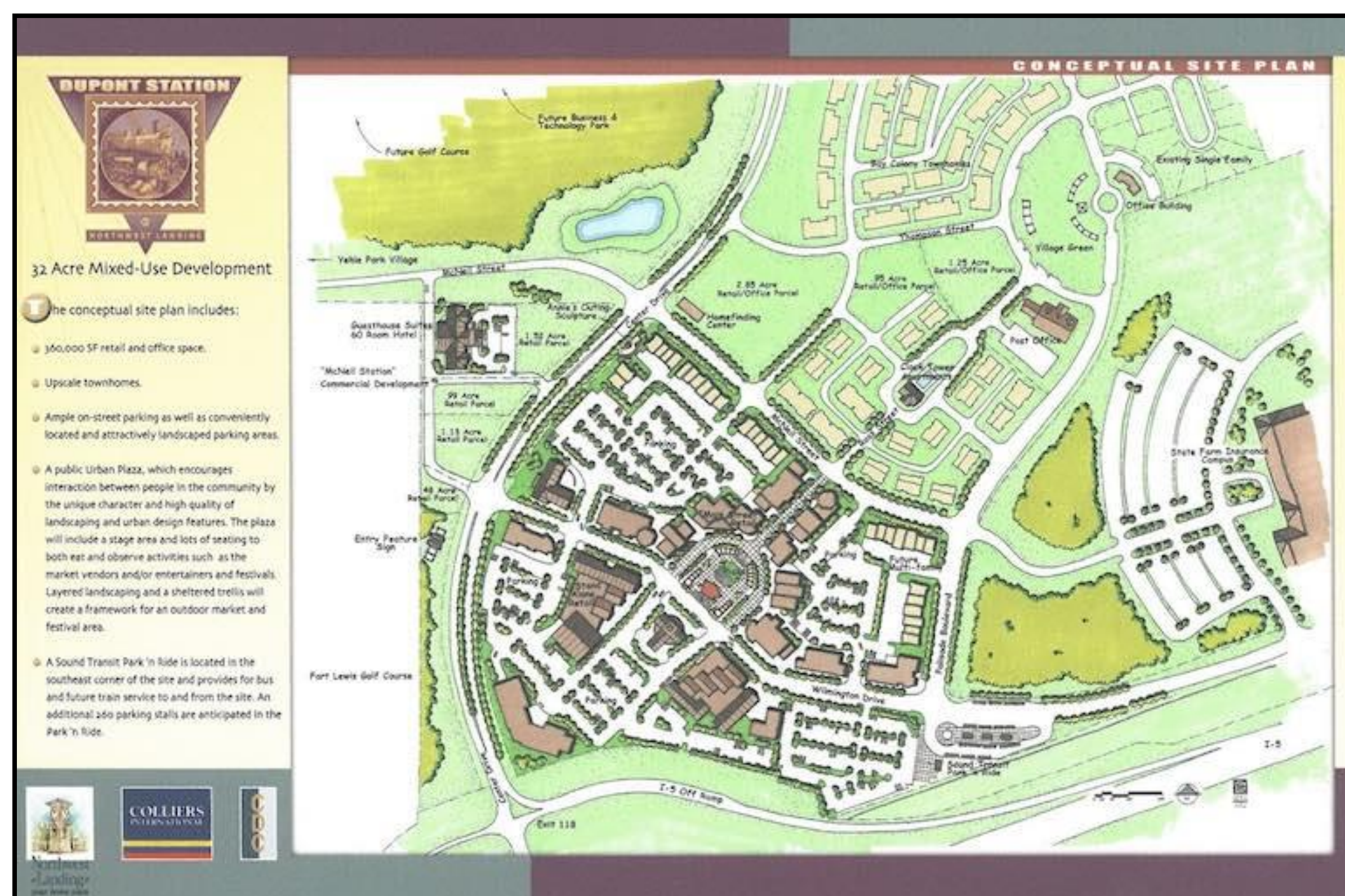
#### Example: Northwest Landing, DuPont, WA

In Dupont, WA, the new residential development, Northwest Landing, was designed to be walkable.

There are shared walkable aspects between Northwest Landing, WA and Pittsville, WI:

#### Shared Characteristics

- Narrow Residential Streets.
- Grid development pattern.
- Short distance from homes to landmarks in the city.



Implementing walking trails, sidewalks, or other forms of paths would better connect residents to necessities in the town.



### Goal 2: Create diverse outdoor recreation opportunities

One of the suggestions for the green space near Poplar Street was a dog park. A potential barrier for development is that the parcels are in a mapped floodplain. With the right design a dog park could be a compatible land use for a floodplain and provide a form of recreation that is not currently available in Pittsville.

#### Example: Clark Park, Stockbridge, GA

The City of Stockbridge, GA transformed an under-used floodplain into a two-section dog park, it was once an unusable area within the city and now is the most used park in the area which provides exercise and social interaction to both the dogs and their owners. The city overcame the flooding problem by using weather and waterproof materials for building as well as using an underground drainage system to divert water into a nearby lake. These are the shared characteristics between the City of Pittsville and the City of Stockbridge, GA:

#### Shared Characteristics

- Both had proposed sites within floodplains.
- Similar lot sizes for the park.
- Easy access for community residents to travel to the park.
- Community members wanting a new social outdoor recreation setting.

### Goal 3: Leverage the natural resources in Pittsville and surrounding area for economic success

The first step to achieving this goal is recognizing the community's natural assets and their ability to generate economic activity. Outdoor recreational opportunities attract visitors and connect them to the community. Recreationists visiting the area to enjoy the outdoors contribute to the local economy when they dine at restaurants, shop local, and seek lodging. Access to outdoor recreation can also benefit residents as well by improving public health.

Pittsville's vicinity to the Yellow River provides residents and visitors access to water-based recreation. The Geographical Center of Wisconsin and dog park near Poplar Street are both located on the Yellow River, which is a reviewed water trail on wisconsinrivertrips.com. In addition, an official walking path through the City of Pittsville would add to the City's outdoor recreational opportunities and connect these natural resources to each other.

#### Example: Wisconsin State Park System Selfie Stands

Many state and county parks in Wisconsin have installed "selfie stands" for visitors to capture photos of themselves in front of picturesque sites or landmarks of significance. Installing a selfie stand at the Geographical Center would make the landmark more interactive and more well-known through social media. Including a wayfinding sign at the Center would help to connect visitors to places of interest in Pittsville, such as restaurants and places to shop, or other recreational opportunities in the area, like the dog park. The Geographical Center of Wisconsin would be a great place to put a selfie stand because it shares characteristics of other locations that have selfie stands.

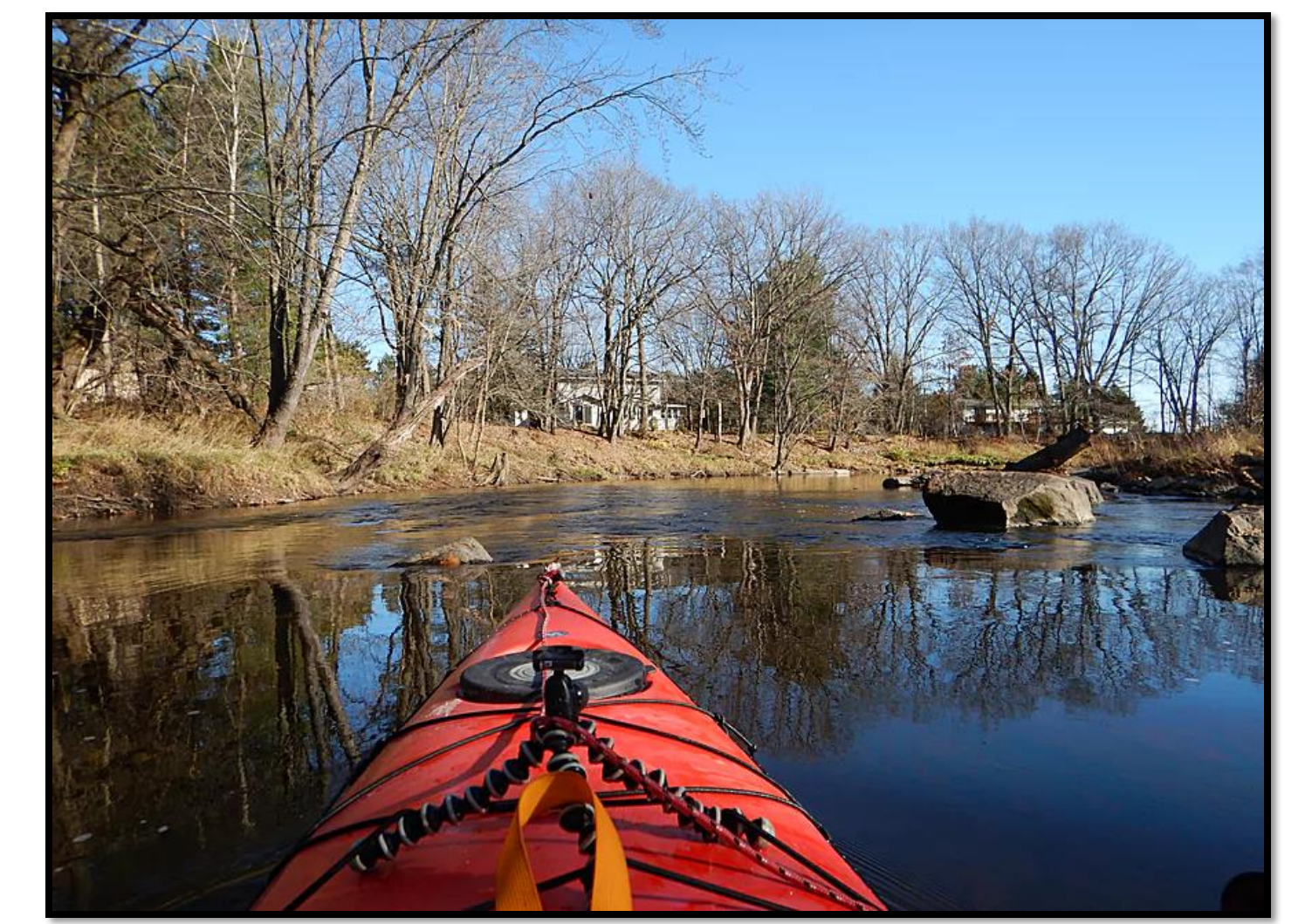


Photo from Yellow River water trail review



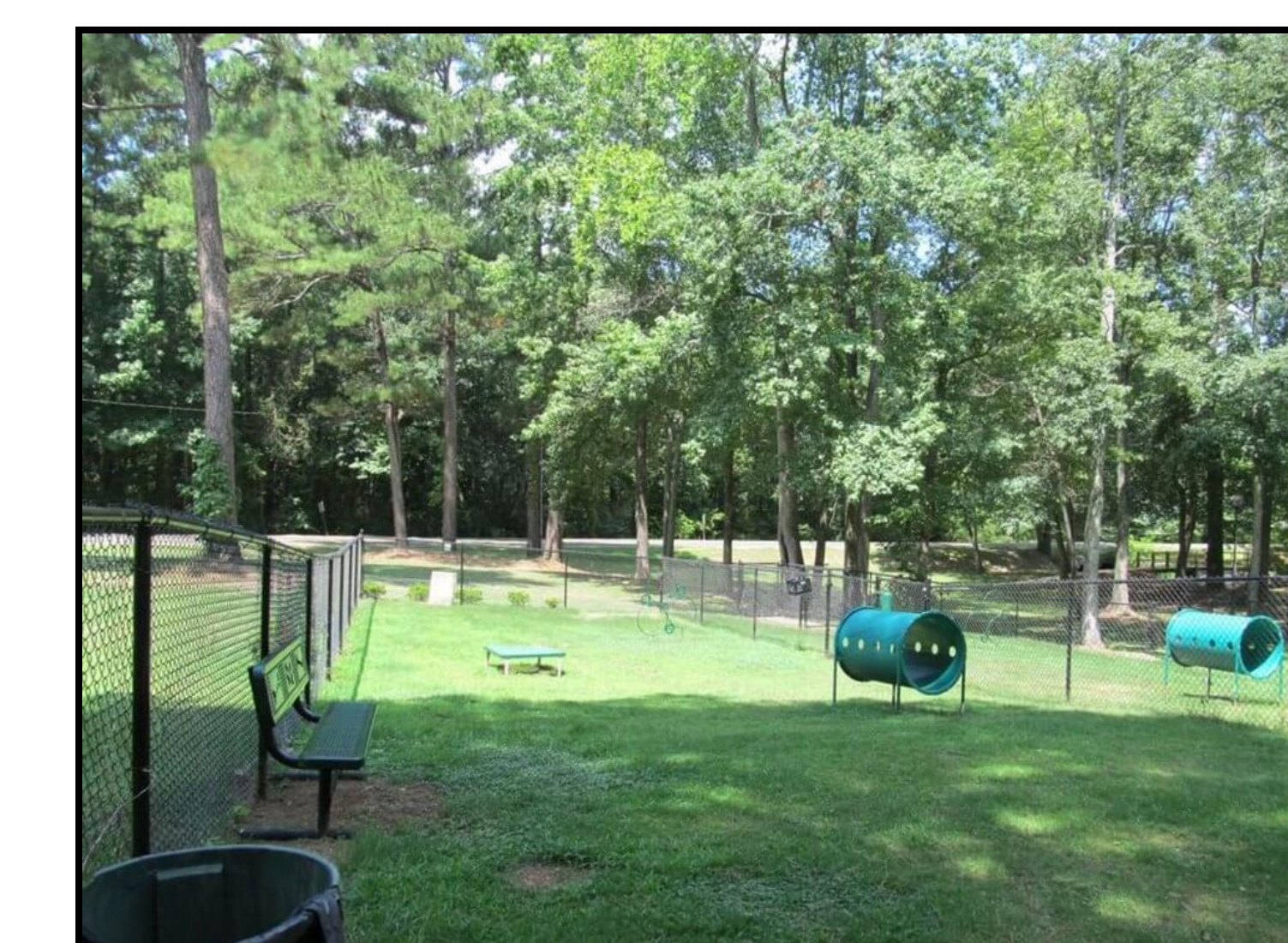
Travel Wisconsin selfie stand

#### Shared Characteristics

- Unique picture-worthy location
- Natural area in Wisconsin
- The Geographical Center Landmark receives visitors from all over



The developed park in Stockbridge, GA.



Stockbridge, GA dog park built in a floodplain.