

Michigan cannot meet the requirement for urban parks in Detroit. For this reason, only a portion of 781,000 acres in city and district parks should be counted as meeting the 10 acre national standard. If 150,000 acres in remote portions of Texas, Missouri, and the Mountain States were excluded from the total, the current inventory of user-oriented local parkland would be about 630,000 acres. It is probably even less. Projecting a 1975 need of 1,630,000 acres based on a 10 acre per 1,000 standard for the 163 million 1975 urban population, would produce a deficit of 1 million acres. At \$4,000 per acre, this land would cost \$4 billion during the next decade.

Very few studies have been done on the adequacy of neighborhood and downtown park acreages. However, based on experience to date with the "small parks program" of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, a minimum need of 1,000 acres of small parks is "projected" for congested neighborhood and downtown areas of large cities. Further experience with this program might indicate a larger need. At an average cost of \$75,000 an acre for this premium land, the total cost would be \$75 million for the decade.

The extraurban or metropolitan open space need of 15 acres per 1,000 population is met only in part by the 538,000 acres in county owned parkland.

Much of this land is remote, accessible only for long drives and vacations. Excluding roughly 100,000 acres in nonuser oriented county parks, current extraurban lands would be short roughly 3 million acres to meet the standard of 15 acres per 1,000, based on the national 1975 population of 230 million. At an estimated projected cost of \$3,000 per acre, this acreage would cost roughly \$9 billion.

It is assumed that during the next decade only a portion of total existing and newly acquired parks must be developed to meet priority needs. Once the land is acquired, then it can be developed at a more leisurely pace. If a million acres were developed during the next decade, it might meet at least the most pressing recreation needs. At \$3,500 per acre this would cost \$3.5 billion.

A substantial portion of city parks constructed before 1940 need considerable upgrading. While there is no precise estimate of the condition of these parks, a reasonable estimate might be that 250,000 acres of city parkland may need redevelopment. At \$4,000 an acre, this would cost \$1 billion.

No category of need is indicated here for specific recreation facilities, such as swimming pools and golf courses. There is not enough information about the location, cost and accessibility of private facilities to determine the need for publicly owned facilities.

(b) *Capital Needs per Year*

The capital needs estimated above would gradually increase each year during the next decade, with an emphasis of land acquisition, minor development, and redevelopment during the early part of the decade, and major land development toward the end of the decade. Early land purchase would reduce the unit cost of land because of escalating prices.

(c) *Need According to Size of Community*

Probably 75 percent of the need is for communities over 50,000, if the trends indicated in table VI continue. The exception to this