

# SECTION 16: TRAILS and RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Municipality of Anchorage  
 Capitol Projects Office  
 Anchorage, Alaska

## TRAILS MASTER PLAN ELEMENTS EXISTING LANDUSE

- BICYCLE-PEDESTRIAN TRAILS
- PEDESTRIAN TRAILS
- CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING/SKIING TRAILS
- PRIMARY EQUESTRIAN ACCESS TRAIL
- NATURE TRAIL
- ACCESS CONTROL MEASURES
- EXISTING G.L. CROSSINGS
- PARK AND START/FINISH AREA
- SPECIAL EQUESTRIAN TRAIL AREA
- EXISTING BIKES/PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
- TRAIL DEVELOPED ONLY WHEN CROSSING IS CONSTRUCTED
- TRAIL HEAD
- WILDERNESS OBSTACLE COURSE
- SECONDARY EQUESTRIAN ACCESS TRAIL
- INTERIM EQUESTRIAN TRAIL
- GRADE SEPARATED CROSSING
- ANCHORAGE WETLANDS BOUNDARY

- EXISTING UNIMPROVED TRAILS
- FACILITIES (Existing buildings, roads, parking and those being built)
- GOLF COURSE WATER FEATURES
- PROPERTY LINE



## Equestrian Center

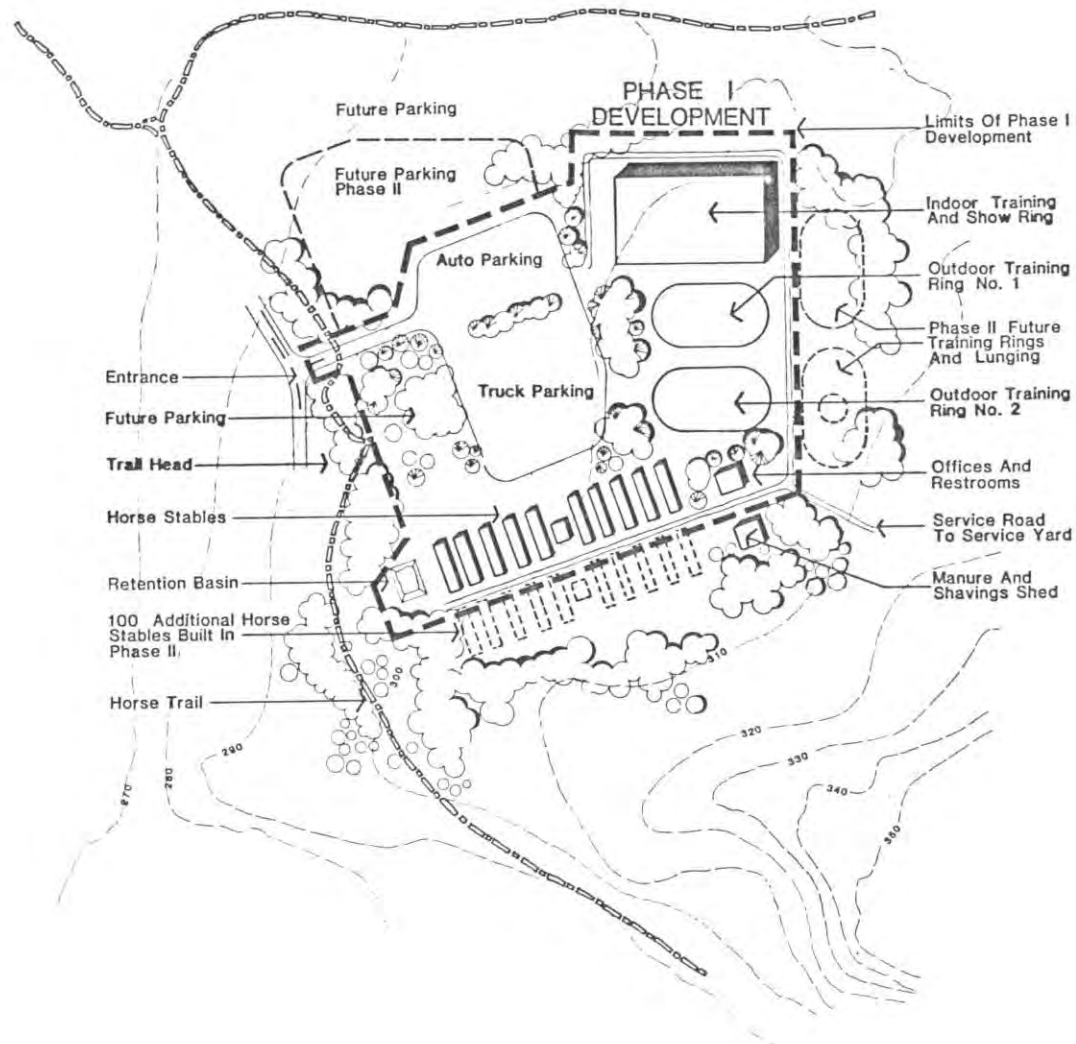
The Section 16 equestrian center has been programmed to respond to the demand for equestrian training facilities in Anchorage, a need which is currently not being adequately satisfied by any other facility. In addition, the creation of the equestrian center will play an important part in the development of the show horse industry in Alaska, which currently appears to be operating below its potential. The equestrian center will also function as a major access point to the system of equestrian trails in the southeast portion of Anchorage.

To accommodate these needs, the emphasis in planning has been to create a facility catering primarily to horse training, showing clinics, competitions and other similar equestrian events, and not specifically to provide for the long term stabling of horses (Figure 7). The long term stabling of horses would limit the equestrian center's ability to satisfy its basic training and showing mission.

A secondary objective in the program of the equestrian center has been to establish a facility which is extremely functional, reasonably easy to maintain, and architecturally compatible with the overall naturalistic design concept of the park. In addition, the initial increment of construction has been sized to accommodate expected usage over the next five years with sufficient expansion space being

# Section 16 Master Plan Development Part II

## Equestrian Center Site Plan



Scale: 1"=100'  
100'

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allowed additional phases of construction in the future.

## Indoor Show/Training Ring

The Indoor Show/Training Ring Building is to be the major building within the Equestrian Center providing an indoor all weather, year round facility for show and training purposes. The building shall be approximately 55,000 square feet in area (approximately 180' x 310') containing one 120' x 240' metal 4' high fenced ring, restrooms, several offices and a small snackbar. Spectators shall enter the building from the parking lot end, while horses and riders enter from the opposite end. Portable bleachers shall be provided on each side of the ring to accommodate 500 people, with space to eventually seat 1,600 people.

The building could be of pre-engineered steel construction with no interior columns, and a concrete slab floor covered with a minimum 12" deep special earth mixture surface in the ring. Radiant heating, ventilation, a public address system zone, and high quality lighting are to be provided. The building should have a sloped roof, should conform with park building design criteria, and should be insulated. A portion of the roof should overhang the equestrian entrance end of a building providing some protection for waiting riders. Adjacent to the building will be several warm up and training rings. Truck access shall be provided on all sides of this building.

## Outdoor Warm Up/Training Ring

Adjacent to the south side of the indoor show/training ring building there is to be a 120' x 240' metal-ringed warm up and training ring. The fencing shall be 5' high to accommodate livestock for an occasional rodeo event in the adjacent building. The surface of the ring shall be a special mixture of granular material to provide an ideal training surface which will also be somewhat resistant to freezing. The ring shall have subsurface drainage capability, night lighting as a training ring, and shall have public address capability.

## Outdoor Show/Training Ring

This ring is located adjacent to the outdoor warm up and training ring and shall be similar to that ring, except the fencing shall be 4' high. Night lighting shall be for both show and training levels, and will have portable bleachers for 200 people.

## Lunging Ring

A small (60' diameter) metal fenced lunging ring with surface similar to the training ring is to be provided. The ring fence shall be 4' high and no night lighting is to be provided.

## Stables

In the initial increment of construction, 100 steel 10' x 10' back-to-back box stalls in five

buildings are to be built. (Space for a minimum of 400 stalls are to be provided.) A prefabricated metal stable system is suggested since several manufacturers are available. All surfaces in the stable are to be either painted or galvanized steel. Roofs shall be pitched at approximately 4 to 12, and all walls are to be supported on concrete footings. Walls and the roof are to be insulated, but natural ventilation space is to be provided at eaves.

The stable buildings are to be unheated and without automatic waterers or tack rooms. Each stall is to be lighted and water service is to be available conveniently adjacent to the stables. The floorings of the stalls shall be removable rubber mats over gravel.

## Support Buildings

A small (900 square feet) support building, with restrooms, small equipment storage, electrical switching gear, vending machines, and a small office, is to be built at the southeast corner of the center. This building should be of concrete block construction with roof form and materials matching stables. The office is to be used in connection with the training rings and stables, but it is to be a minor space, with the main equestrian center office being located in the Indoor Show/Training Ring Building.

## Manure/Shaving Storage

Two 20' x 20' spaces with concrete subflooring and 5' tall concrete block walls, creating

spaces for bulk storage of manure and bulk wood shavings. These structures shall have three solid walls and shall be roofed with a roof structure matching the stables.

## Horse Washing Building

30' x 30' concrete block building with roof structure matching stables, to be used for horse washing and grooming.

## Site Development/Parking

Approximately 15 acres of wooded area must be cleared in preparation for the first phase of development of the equestrian center construction. Eventually, when totally built out, the equestrian center will cover about 21 acres. Site clearing for the Equestrian Center is to be done in a sensitive manner and final design shall provide for the retention of an extensive amount of the existing trees which are to remain undisturbed in scattered areas around the equestrian center. The grading of the site is to be limited to that which is required for building and ring pads and there should be no attempt to create large areas of cut and fill. The gentle sloping character of the existing site can accommodate the planned facility with relative ease.

It is recommended that the cleared area around buildings and other facilities within the equestrian center be finished with a 4" to 6" layer of granular surface such as gravel or decomposed granite. The parking areas should be

paved with asphalt paving eventually, although initially they too can be surfaced with rock base material or gravel. Initially a parking area of 3 acres will be provided which can eventually be expanded to about 6 acres. The area of parking is included within the area of clearing mentioned above.

It is assumed that the initial 3 acre area of parking will accommodate about 60 trucks with horse trailers and about 150 cars or some combination of the two. The parking lot is to be designed in such away that there will be designated areas for cars and trucks, the truck area being generally adjacent to the trail head, the barns and the training rings. The car parking area shall be nearer to the Indoor Show/Training Building. Some minimal night lighting of the parking lot and vehicular access way shall be provided.

Site drainage shall be generally surface flow. Within the show/training and stable area, surface flow should be towards the service driveway, which can act as a paved water collector which can take water to a retention basin within which solids in the water can settle out and water can percolate into the ground. A small diameter storm drain with drop inlets should be provided under the service driveway. This technique should satisfy State and City Water Quality Control Standards. Parking lot water and roof drainage water will be concentrated and allowed to drain directly towards the creek to the south and west.

## Site Circulation

The equestrian center plan is organized in such a way that public access comes from the parking lot side to the west. Service and equipment access is to come from the east (park service yard) and will circulate on the "L" shaped service driveway which passed along the back side of the Indoor Show/Training Ring Building, training rings and through the center of the stable complex.

All the site areas surrounding the show and training rings, the indoor show and training ring building, and the stables will accommodate equestrian movement in whatever pattern is needed to support the anticipated usages. Trailer, truck and car movement will take place in the parking lot and controlled truck circulation can occur in the stable area. Generally speaking, it is anticipated that many, but not all, horses that arrive by truck or trailer will be unloaded in the parking lot and be walked to the stable or training ring area.

## Utilities

Electric, water, sanitary sewer, phone and gas utility connections will be required for the Equestrian Center. Gas consumption will be for radiant heating and a minor amount of cooking in the Indoor Show/Training Ring Building. This need can probably be easily satisfied with tank service. The sewer service, emanating mostly from the Indoor Show/Training Ring Building

restrooms, can connect to a future trunkline to be built along the creek to the south. Water, telephone and electrical service will come from Abbott Road to the north. All service is to be underground and within the equestrian center proper. All utility backbones are to run under the service driveway.



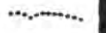

Communication within the equestrian center is complex, particularly during a large show. It is recommended that an overall site public address system be established with zones covering the indoor arena, each of the two outdoor rings, the stable area and the truck portion of the parking lot. Pay phones should be provided at the Indoor Show/Training Ring Building, Support Building and in the stable area. Call boxes with access to the office should also be provided adjacent to pay phones and one each at each outdoor training ring.

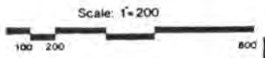
## Service Yard

Although there will be manure and shaving holding facilities in the equestrian center, a service yard for the equestrian center alone is not planned. Instead, the equestrian center is to be serviced from the park service yard immediately adjacent. All manure pickup and shaving delivery is to be through the service yard and not through the interior of the park. No bulk feed storage is planned, since it will not be the responsibility of the equestrian center to feed any of the horses. Space for individuals to store small amounts of feed, hay, etc., will be provided in the stable area.

Section 16  
Master Plan  
Development Part II

Park Development  
Site Plan

- EQUESTRIAN TRAIL 
- BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAIL 
- NATURE WALK 
- PARCOURS STATIONS 



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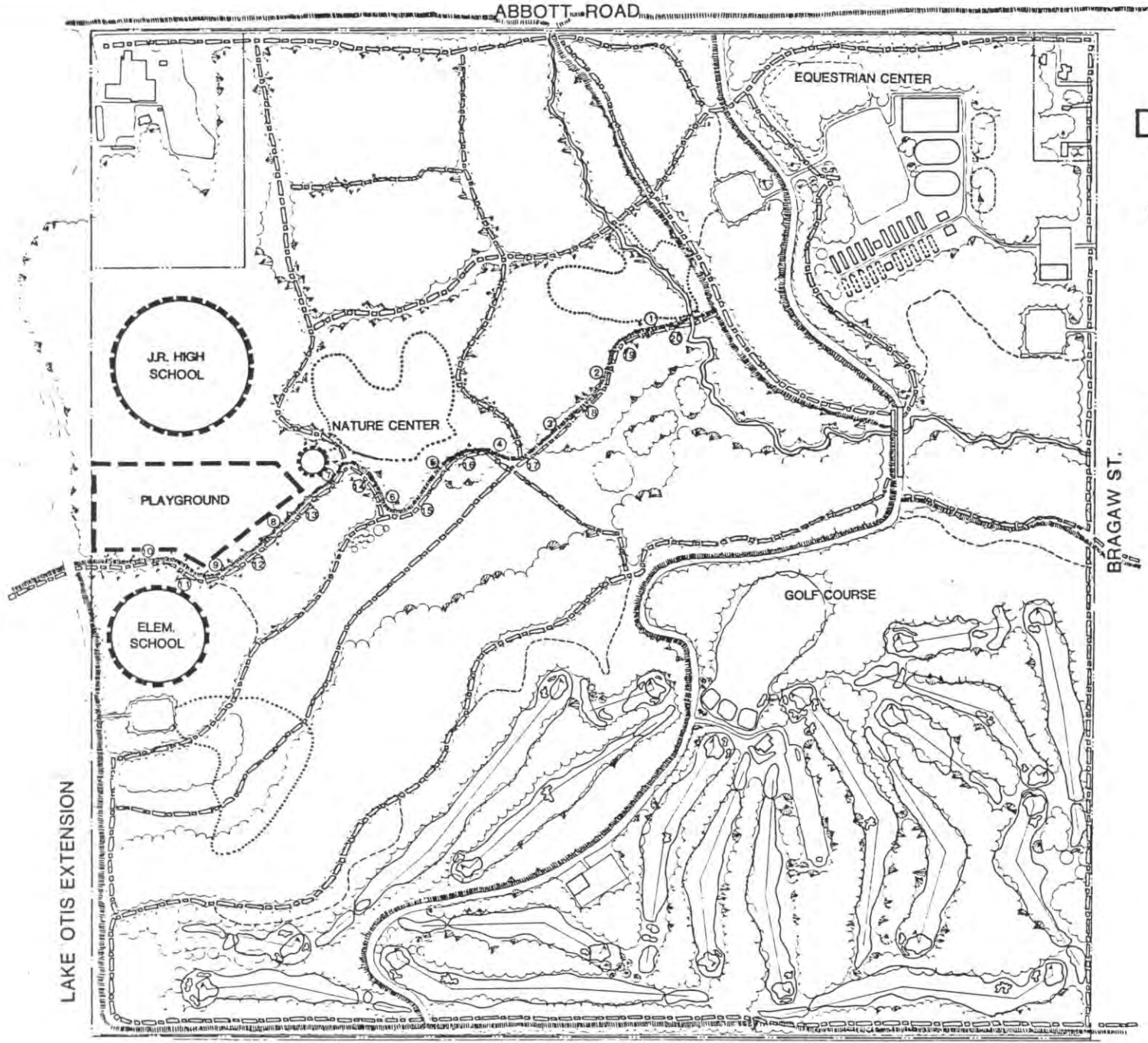


Figure 25