

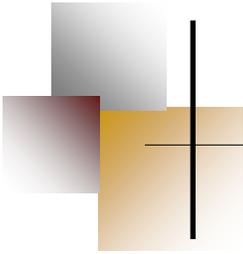
## Benton County Master Plan Glads, Sads and Mads—Group Sharing

### Group 1

- ❖ GLAD of
  - cooperation of all government agencies
  - appropriated money for plan
  - changing park dedication fees similar to Sherburne County 7% - 10%
- ❖ SAD of
  - should be more involvement in all aspects of government; state input money for County, Township and Cities
  - small interest groups work against common good to get goals accomplished
- ❖ MAD of
  - non-productive meetings—needs to be simpler
  - too many political games

### Group 2

- ❖ GLAD of
  - nice rural lifestyle; opportunities for business
  - people happy that they can support Benton County Parks, example—sports club, Veterans and Budget Committee
- also
  - budget committee membership
  - create opportunities for park users with visual impairments
  - interested staff and commissioners to come up with parks and open space master plan
- ❖ SAD of
  - not enough involvement with Park Board
  - population expansion, loss of rural quality
  - no decision on Sauk Rapids bridge
  - residents' under use of existing parks
  - parks not used as often as should be
- ❖ MAD of
  - revenues outside of budget, lack of funding
  - water quality down in Little Rock Lake
  - people who don't contribute at right time in process



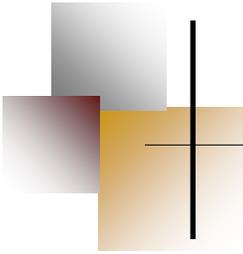
## Benton County Master Plan Glads, Sads and Mads—Group Sharing

### Group 3

- ❖ GLAD of
  - coordination, cooperation and participation of multiple agencies
  - happy about current opportunities
  - active and passive activities present are good
- ❖ SAD of
  - little opportunity to participate (public notice not as good as it could be)
  - under utilization of existing facilities
  - not necessarily looking at opportunities to incorporate recreation into rebuilds/  
infrastructures
- ❖ MAD of
  - lack of agency cooperation in the past
  - funding
  - cooperation of agencies

### Group 4

- ❖ GLAD of
  - grew up in county in mid-1900s
  - Township board member for 40 years
  - decent job, family, place to live, kids come home to Benton County
  - small communities, good schools, safe
  - being a part of planning process
- ❖ SAD of
  - Peace Rock not preserved
  - Zoning member 12 years, disappointed way of current planning, development  
patterns
  - over-regulation in some areas and under regulation in others (I.e., snowmobiles)
  - County not living up to sanitary regulations
  - limited amount of money/people to make improvements
- ❖ MAD of
  - Little Rock Lake water quality deterioration



# Benton County Master Plan

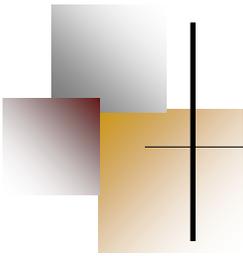
## Glads, Sads and Mads—Group Sharing

### Group 5

- ❖ GLAD of
  - natural areas remaining
  - park fee for developers
  - peace and quiet of rural life
  - landowners seeking opportunities to conserve resources, conservancy on own property
- ❖ SAD of
  - encroaching residential development on farms
  - wetland loss
  - revising development increases
  - land price increases (impact on farms and new farms)
  - park planning process—20 years overdue—lost resources
  - society not putting resources/money to maintain quality of life
  - children not comfortable today in nature, indoor oriented
  - Recreational vehicles damage wetlands
- ❖ MAD of
  - loss of unique natural areas
  - corporate farming increases, family farming decrease
  - billboards
  - lack of money for natural resources

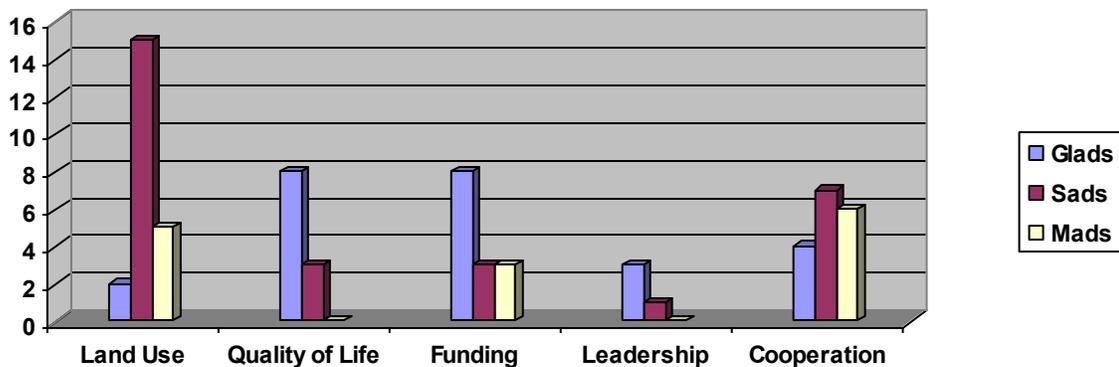
### Group 6

- ❖ GLAD of
  - Grave's farm purchase
  - Rice area sportsman club land purchases
  - diversity in development around Sauk Rapids in a sensitive manner
  - Parks planning process starting for future of Benton County
- ❖ SAD of
  - County Biological Survey points out loss of vegetation
  - Surveyed urban sprawl
  - lack of regional coordination outside of Benton County
  - loss of habitat (forests)
- ❖ MAD of
  - lack of support from legislators
  - waited too long to do park planning
  - waited too long to do budget for planning



## Benton County Master Plan Glads, Sads and Mads—Group Sharing

	Land and Facility Use	Quality of Life Issues	Funding and Support	Local Leadership	Cooperation Issues
<b>Glads</b>	2	8	8	3	4
<b>Sads</b>	15	3	3	1	7
<b>Mads</b>	5	0	3	0	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>



### Assumptions

❖ In general, the group is:

- Glad about the quality of life and the funding and support for County parks, trails and open spaces
- Sad about the land and facility uses currently and the cooperation among the various stakeholder groups
- Mad about the land and facility uses currently and the cooperation among the various stakeholder groups
- Parks planning process starting for future of Benton County

❖ Therefore, people are:

- mostly happy with the quality of life in Benton County
- concerned about losing the things that contribute to that quality, namely natural resources and recreation areas
- frustrated with the past lack of cooperation among the various agencies and groups
- happy about the current focus on the open space, parks and trail development planning