

CITY OF WASHBURN
119 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 638
Washburn, WI 54891



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NOTICE OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: November 15, 2022

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Washburn City Hall

This meeting may have members participating via tele or web conferencing.

Public participants can listen to the proceedings on-line at this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83034185046?pwd=amlTWUQ1SHFGWjN5ai9rNHINTGJZdz09>

or by calling 888-788-0099 (Toll-free) and entering Mtg ID: 830 3418 5046 and Passcode: 111522.

Limited seating will be available.

Agenda:

- Call to Order/Roll Call
- Approval of the October 26, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- Updates from Public Works Department
- Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan & WI Coastal Management Grant
- Discussion & Action of Mowing Procedures & Locations Outlined in the Walking Trail Land Management Plan
- Discussion & Action on updating Walking Trail Management Plan and preparing Memorial Park Campground Development Plan
- Adjournment

It is possible that members of, and possibly a quorum of, other governmental bodies including the Common Council of the City of Washburn are in attendance at the above meeting. No action will be taken by any governmental body other than the Parks Committee.

October 26, 2022

City of Washburn Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

5:30 PM

Washburn City Hall and Virtual

Members Present:

Angel Croll, Jamie Cook (late), Jeremy Oswald,
Erika Lang, Jennifer Maziasz (Council rep)

Municipal Personnel Present:

Mayor Mary Motiff, Scott Kluver, City Administrator,
Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator

Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM. Four (4) of Five (5) members are present; quorum is recognized. Cook arrived late.

Approval of September 20, 2022 Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve minutes by Oswald, second by Lang. Minutes approved unanimously.

Motion by Oswald made to change to the order of Meeting Agenda, second by Lang. Change to the order of Meeting agenda approved unanimously.

Update & Presentation of Invasive Species Control along the Lakeshore Parkway by Bay Area Environmental Consulting, LLC- Michael Sinclair & Nile Merton - Control of invasive buckthorn and honeysuckle via mechanical and chemical means is working well. 80-90% reduction in buckthorn observed. Moneywort located in research area has increased dramatically. Advise on tree planting along lakeshore should include shrubs for bird habitat and long-lived trees species such as white pine and sugar maple to replace ash trees.

Discussion & Action of Public Input Meeting for Proposed Expansion of West End Park Campground - Maziasz summarized public outreach opportunities and public responses. She also raised the question: “What is the goal of the campground expansion?” Response is revenue for the City. The idea of yurts was investigated as an option to RVs. Janisch provided a “Yurt Proposal” handout illustrating costs (upfront and recurring), income (variables for # nights/yr and fee/night) and payback for 1-4 yurts. And handout on “Campground Fee Revenues” for 2013-2022. Motion made by Oswald to open floor for public input/comment with 3-minute limit per person for a 15 minute total, second by Croll. Motion carried unanimously.

Tom Neimes, 605 W 4th St. Generally, in support of yurts as part of campground expansion. He is concerned about illegal activities that have occurred at other yurt locations within Bayfield County. He is also in support of the “T” fishing dock placed back at West End Park.

Roth Edwards, 221 W 6th St. Edwards is not supportive of development on Holman Lakeview Drive. He is concerned with smoke created by campfires. He expressed displeasure at preferential treatment of condo and business owners along the shoreline trail. Additionally,

Edwards submitted a written comment on the proposed Motorhome/RV or Yurts development on Holman Lakeview Drive.

Bill Scripps, 228 W 4th St. While not supportive of a “permanent” improvement, he is okay with the use of the overflow area. He encourages City Council to seek other revenue sources. He expressed that green space is more valuable to the City of Washburn in the long term than if improved.

John R. Hopkins, 631 W Bayfield St. Public green space is a quality-of-life issue. Young professionals have more flexibility regarding where they live based on quality of life. Those individuals are a potential economic driver for the City of Washburn.

Nile Merton, 216 W 4th St. Recognizing the walking trail is still recovering from its industrial days, he urges the City to plan for future as a “wilderness” space. To balance improvements and environmental issues; use green infrastructure/ low impact infrastructure. Based on that criteria, yurts are okay.

Joe Groshek, 30650 Sky Rd. Washburn. The Lakeshore Trail is a major draw for the City of Washburn. People are moving for a lifestyle, and they create economic opportunities. He is supportive of developing the overflow area.

Motion by Oswald to close the floor to additional public comment, second by Cook. Approved unanimously. Mayor Mary Motiff asks the Committee to consider these items: Washburn is a city not a national park. The City needs money. City Council is taking into consideration 2015 Thompson West End Plan priorities of increasing campsites, adding shower/bath house, playground improvement, and glamping. Yurts are not permanent. Washburn City Administrator Scott Kluver commented that the City needs money or operations will have to be cut. Motion made by Oswald to recommend to Council to delay Campground Expansion plans and consider Yurts for generating revenue along with potential locations, second by Lang. Motion passes four (4) to one (1); Oswald, Croll, Lang, Maziasz voting in favor. Cook voting against. Oswald added that Yurts could be considered in the current camping area.

Updates from Public Works Department - Public Works Director Gerry Schuette absent; Asst. Administrator Tony Janisch provided the following updates:

- Athletic Fields projects completed: Ball park dug outs installed; lighting at skate rink and walk upgraded. Pending: patch blacktop where utilities were moved.
- Campgrounds projects completed: Memorial waterline upgrade 800’ and 8 spigots; stumps ground and damaged trees removed; lift stations serviced.
- Campgrounds closed for season; Red Cliff donated used ice skates to the City; City Council approved to relocate utility easement and walking trail extension at the Athletic Fields.

Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan & Coastal Management Grant - City awarded Coastal grant for 2021; not applying for 2022.

Discussion & Action of Mowing Procedures & Locations Outlined in the Walking Trail Land Management Plan - Motion by Oswald to table discussion to November meeting, second by Croll. Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion In-person vs Virtual Meetings - Kluver commented on the legal liability of virtual meetings. He encourages everyone to participate in-person; emphasized in-person is preferred. The Mayor commented of improved rapport when in person.

Discussion & Recommendations of 2023 Parks & Recreation Budgets - Packet handouts provided for informational purposes. Discussion/overview illustrates proposed income and expenditures for the Parks & Recreation. No action taken by Parks Committee.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM.

Angel Croll
Secretary, Parks Committee

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To: Parks Committee
From: Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator
Re: Walking Trail Land Management Plan Mowing Procedures & Locations
Date: November 10, 2022

At the August 16, 2022 Parks Meeting, it was suggested that a discussion be had regarding City mowing along the Lakeshore Walking Trail. This discussion has been tabled the past few months, so maybe the third times a charm. I have included the management plan for the Lakeshore Parkway & Walking Trail for your review. The specific section on mowing can be found on pages 10-12. I have also included the 1998 agreement with property owners for lawn maintenance above the Marina; as this was also asked about in August.

A G R E E M E N T

WHEREAS, the City of Washburn has an interest protecting the public's right to benefit from the shoreline, and walking trail, and to preserve the scenic beauty of the City of Washburn; and

WHEREAS, the property owners have a right to view Lake Superior from their homes and businesses, and do so with a neat appearance;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED THAT

1. The City of Washburn will clear and cut all brush, grass and undesirable trees such as aspen, poplar, etc., along the lakeshore parkway from the Washburn Marina to Washington Avenue. This work will be completed by October 25, 1998.

✓ 2. Annually, and prior to May 15th each year, the City of Washburn will cut and maintain vegetation and tree growth on the lake side of the walking trail as well as the two ravines.

3. Any proposed planting of trees or shrubs by the City of Washburn will require the consent of affected owners.

4. Property owners, both residential and commercial, along lakeshore parkway shall maintain and cut grass and brush up to walking trail after October 25, 1998.

5. Any changes or variances to this agreement by the property owners or City shall be directed to the City Administrator for consideration.

2020

LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN: WASHBURN LAKESHORE PARKWAY AND WALKING TRAIL



Written by Parks Committee

Adopted by Washburn City Council

3/9/2020

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INTRODUCTION

Background

Located on the Bayfield Peninsula in the Superior Coastal Plain Ecological Landscape of Wisconsin, the Washburn Lakeshore Parkway is a unique, natural area within the City of Washburn and a place for education, quiet reflection, and exercise. The area comprises approximately 54 acres of public land and is located in northern Bayfield County, Wisconsin in Township 48N, Range 4W, Section 5 (Exhibit A). The land comprises approximately 5,000 linear feet of Lake Superior's shoreline between Thompson's West End Park and the area just east of the Washburn Marina adjacent to the City's coal dock and Pumphouse Road. An approximate one-mile non-motorized trail traverses the land. In January 2020, Washburn City Council designated a portion of the walking trail as a historic site. This includes the trail from the trailhead at the east end of Thompson's West End Park at the end of 6th Avenue West to the Washburn Marina. The width of the historic site shall be from eight feet north of the existing pathway south to the normal high-water line of Lake Superior. This designation should not affect routine maintenance and management of the trail and structures.

History of the Washburn Walking Trail

The City of Washburn was platted and surveyed in 1882. Past residents believed that there was once a footpath connecting the town where many workers lived to their jobsites along the water's edge. In 1976, a group of local residents worked together to create a natural pathway along the lakeshore, a simple, quiet retreat from the noise of humanity, where residents can enjoy nature. The City of Washburn owns the walking trail and has managed it since the 1980s. In 2001, two new bridges were built across ravines, and the trail was widened and resurfaced. Additionally, 350 native trees have been planted along the trail. The trail and its natural area continue to be maintained and improved by the City of Washburn with support from residents, partners, and grant funding. It is an incredible resource for Washburn residents and visitors.

Management Plan Update

This updated land management plan focuses on the section of the trail between Thompson's West End Park and the area just east of the Washburn Marina adjacent to the City's coal dock and Pumphouse Road. This plan primarily focuses on land management actions related to vegetation and habitat. While there is some reference to recreational infrastructure along the trail, a recreational section will be created and added at a later date. We recognize that the lakeshore and walking trail extends further to Memorial Park; management actions for that area will also be included at a later date. It will replace the management plan and conservation plan appendix adopted by Washburn's City Council in 2000; and the updated management plan/action plan in 2006. This updated management plan was written to improve clarity, be comprehensive in scope while also being user-friendly, and in consideration of best management practices/best science related to natural resources. It complements recommendations in the Expansion of West End Park Report written in 2015 and adopted by City Council. It builds on the direction of the past plans and on the West End Park Report. This updated land management plan will focus on a three-year program of work. The plan will be revisited as needed in response to changes in on-the-ground conditions after invasive plant species treatments and as future desired conditions and uses are determined for various areas in the parkway.

Exhibit A - Map of Natural Area



Property Description, Past & Current Conditions

The property includes ravines, low elevation uplands, and forested as well as shrub-scrub wetland areas. Several view corridors are located throughout the area, as well as infrastructure. In addition to the diverse types of habitat on the property, there are various wildlife species including migratory birds and breeding birds (due to its close proximity to Lake Superior), turtles, deer, mink, beaver, fox, and otter as well as others. While much of the parkway is viewed as a natural area, the majority of the plant communities within the park have seen significant disturbance from past and current land use activities. As a result, invasive plants are prevalent throughout the natural area, and high density of these plants exist. These areas will be documented in the near future, and a map/data will be added to this management plan. For a visual picture of the existing conditions as of summer 2019, see Appendix A for Photopoint Map, Coordinates of Photopoints, and Photos.

Historically, this area was dominated by boreal forest and mixed coniferous-hardwood forest plant communities. Topographic variations prior to human settlement and wetland soil indicators in present day soils indicate that there were likely substantial areas dominated by wetlands throughout the park area. Historic plant communities were black spruce swamps, boreal forests, mesic cedar forest, northern hardwood swamps, and northern forests ranging from wet to dry mesic throughout. The area also likely contained a variety of non-forested wetland communities including shore fen and emergent marsh on the coast, and emergent marsh, alder thicket, fens, northern sedge meadow and shrub carr slightly inland.

At the time of the creation of this management plan, several access points, infrastructure improvements, and interpretive signs exist including:

- *Parking* - A small parking area is located at the east end of Thompson's West End Park at the end of 6th Avenue West. An additional small parking area is located near the corner of 4th Avenue West and W. Holman Lakeview Drive.
- *Main Trail* - A trail made of packed limestone, approximately 8-10 feet in width, exists. This width includes the turf/low-growing plants on each side of packed trail. Resurfacing may be needed in various areas in the future.
- *View Corridors* - View corridors constitute approximately 2,000 linear feet or just over 1/3 of the shoreline. See Appendix B for View Corridor Map and Criteria.
- *Structures* - Benches and picnic tables are present in several locations. A set of exercise equipment is located at the entrance to the walking trail off of 6th Avenue West. Currently, only one waste container exists at the entrance to the walking trail off of 6th Avenue West. Other structures include staircases and bridges.
- *Interpretive Signage* - Historical interpretive signs are posted along the trail's length, emphasizing logging and shipping history. Additional signage communicating various information such as navigation (maps), allowable/permitted uses, natural resources, history, culture, and/or other pertinent information may be useful.

Descriptions of Habitat Areas

This management plan lists multiple plant species that may be appropriate to achieve desired future conditions. To refine a list of species, additional surveys should be conducted, and planting plans will be created as funding allows. Trees, shrubs, and other herbaceous species native to this region

of Wisconsin and of special cultural importance will be stressed, with the goals of creating a diversity of forest types, shrub-scrub habitat areas, and pollinator habitat areas as well as to build climate resiliency along the lakeshore. Additionally, edible plants (such as raspberry, blueberry, blackberry, serviceberry, wild plum, high bush cranberry, elderberry, hazelnut, etc.) may also be a good choice for particular areas and would provide food to wildlife and visitors.

Area	Current Condition	Desired Future Condition
Area 1 and 3	Wetland and low elevation upland areas inhabited by alder, red osier dogwood, willow, and sumac as well as a mix of native trees including tamarack, aspen, ash, and white pine, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian (<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>), non-native honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera spp.</i>), common buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>), common tansy (<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>), reed canary grass (<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>), Bird's-foot trefoil (<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>), and crown vetch (<i>Coronilla varia</i>), among others.	Native, long-lived species such as cedar, white pine, and oak as well as others. Early successional shrub species in wetter areas such as swales and along the lake. These are hardy species which are the first to establish in a site after a disturbance. Appropriate species may include alder, red osier dogwood, and willow among others and native understory species. Continue to use the high ground of Area 1 for Book Across the Bay parking.
Ravine 1	Ravine area inhabited by boxelder, red osier dogwood, alder, willow, and sumac, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian, non-native honeysuckle, and common buckthorn.	Native, long-lived and low maintenance conifers. Early successional shrub species along the lake. These are hardy species which are the first to establish in a site after a disturbance. Appropriate species may include alder, red osier dogwood, and willow among others and wetland understory species.
Areas 2	Wetland area mowed in 2018 and previously dominated by red osier dogwood and alder, as well as other wetland plants such as native sedges. Invasive plants are now becoming established including garden valerian and common tansy.	Native, long-lived species such as cedar, white pine, and oak as well as others. Trees could be planted in groups to still allow lake views and for maintenance ease. Early successional shrub species in wetter areas such as swales and along the lake. These are hardy species which are the first to establish in a site after a disturbance. Appropriate species may include alder, red osier dogwood, and willow among others and native understory species. Understory/groundcover plants should also be utilized to help minimize erosion and the establishment of invasive plants.
Ravine 2	Ravine area inhabited by boxelder, dogwood, alder, willow, and ash, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian, non-native honeysuckle, and common buckthorn.	Native, long-lived and low maintenance conifers. Early successional shrub species along the lake. These are hardy species which are the first to establish in a site after a disturbance. Appropriate species may include alder, red osier dogwood, and willow among others and wetland understory species.

Area 4	Wetland area mowed in 2018 and previously dominated by red osier dogwood and alder, as well as other wetland plants. Near the lake, aspen, balsam fir, ash, and red osier dogwood, among others, are present. Invasive plants include garden valerian, common tansy, ornamental silvergrass (<i>Miscanthus spp.</i>), garden valerian, non-native honeysuckle, and common buckthorn.	Native, long-lived species such as cedar, white pine, and oak as well as others. Trees could be planted in groups to still allow lake views and for maintenance ease. Early successional shrub species in wetter areas such as swales and along the lake. These are hardy species which are the first to establish in a site after a disturbance. Appropriate species may include alder, red osier dogwood, and willow among others and native understory species. Understory/groundcover plants should also be utilized to help minimize erosion and the establishment of invasive plants.
Ravine 3	Ravine area inhabited by boxelder, aspen, ash, alder, hawthorn, willow, red osier dogwood, serviceberry, and sumac, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian, non-native honeysuckle, and common buckthorn.	Native, long-lived and low maintenance conifers. Early successional shrub species along the lake. These are hardy species which are the first to establish in a site after a disturbance. Appropriate species may include alder, red osier dogwood, and willow among others and wetland understory species.
Area 5 and 6	These areas are dominated by mown turf grass on land owned by the City of Washburn and adjacent to private residences. Along the lake, native shrubs and trees are present as well as invasive plants such as common buckthorn and non-native honeysuckle. Some parts of the slopes have been frequently mowed causing erosion and sedimentation.	Native shrubs, such as red osier dogwood, short-growing willow, snowberry, ferns, ninebark, and spirea as well as others to minimize erosion, provide habitat, and protect water quality. Continue to leave some of the area in turf grass or convert some area to low growing pollinator gardens.
Area 7	This area is located in front of area businesses and adjacent to the marina. Vegetation consists of native shrubs and some invasive plants including purple loosestrife (<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>). The vegetation along the lakeshore's slopes is often mowed.	Native short-stature shrubs, such as red osier dogwood, short-growing willow, snowberry, ferns, ninebark, and spirea as well as others to minimize erosion, provide habitat, and protect water quality.
Area 8	This area is located east of the marina, adjacent to the City's coal dock and Pumphouse Road. It is approximately 8 acres in size, and the small beach is well used by local residents and visitors to access the lake. It is a low elevation upland area inhabited by alder, willow and other shrubs along the lakeshore, as well as a mix of native trees including aspen, paper birch, and balsam fir, among others. Invasive plants include non-native honeysuckle and common buckthorn.	Native, long-lived species such as cedar, white pine, and oak as well as others. Early successional shrub species along the lake. These are hardy species which are the first to establish in a site after a disturbance. Appropriate species may include alder, red osier dogwood, and willow among others and native understory species. City will evaluate long-term use of small open picnic area. It is currently being mowed.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Goals

As the landowner, the City of Washburn (hereinafter “City”) will oversee all activities on the property. Management activities will be designed, coordinated and/or implemented to:

- (a) Preserve, restore, and enhance natural habitats for wildlife and nearby fisheries.
- (b) Maintain water quality of Lake Superior and its associated nearshore wetlands by choosing management actions that minimize erosion, runoff, and sedimentation.
- (c) Provide recreational and educational opportunities for the public, including citizens and visitors with physical limitations, while minimizing the impact of public use on natural resources and adjacent private properties.

Restoration Opportunities and Practices

According to the Expansion of West End Park Report, the existing habitat within the parkway represents a unique opportunity to restore habitat to the Lake Superior coastline through careful planning and implementation of restoration activities. Restoration efforts should concentrate on:

- 1) Removing/controlling invasive species, and replacing them with native plants;
- 2) Creating or promoting suitable habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered species; and
- 3) Maintaining or promoting ecologically important or valuable habitat components that will/would otherwise succumb to natural succession/conversion. For Options 2 and 3, a plan will be written by a qualified natural resource expert and reviewed by the City’s Staff before implementing restoration activities.

Best Management Practices

The City will follow applicable local, county, state, and federal laws as well as Best Management Practices recommended by the State of Wisconsin when conducting management activities.

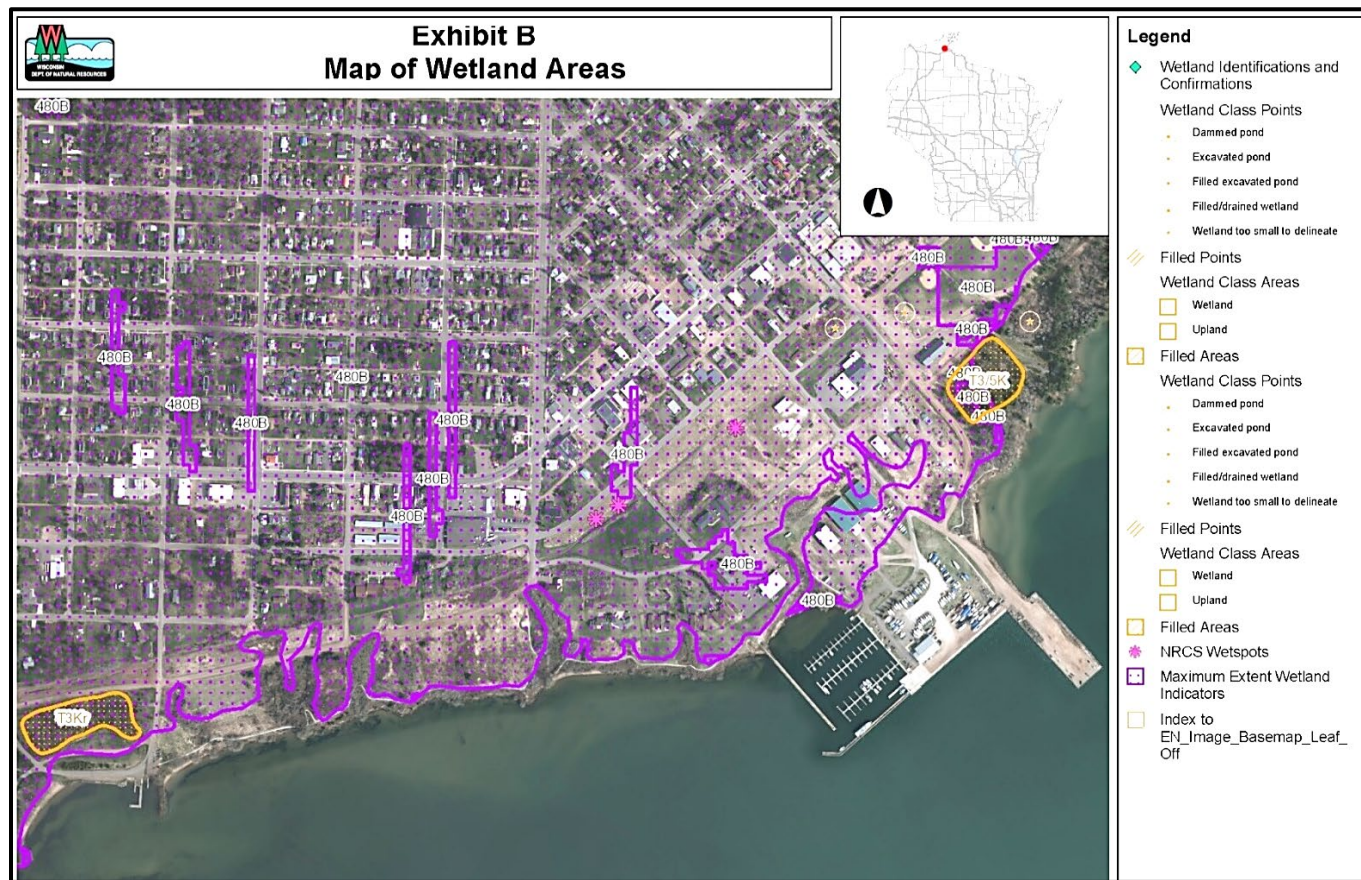
- **Invasive Plant Species Removal & Control**

To achieve desired future conditions, it is important to remove/control invasive plant species and replace them with native plant species appropriate for that area. Over the next several years (2020-2023), the focus will be on invasive species eradication and restoring habitat. See Appendix C for Descriptions of Invasive Plant Species and Treatment Recommendations.

- If mowing is used to remove/control invasive plants, it will be timed with the plant’s phenology (i.e. completed before going to seeds).
- If mowing occurs after invasive plants have seeded, equipment will be cleaned.
- If invasive plants are mixed in with native plants, City staff or volunteers will strive to adjust their mowing heights to leave at least 2 feet of height on native species to minimize impacts to wildlife species using these areas.
- When invasive species removal/control activities are occurring, temporary signage will be posted along the trail to help educate the public.

- Wetland Protection & Management

Wetland conditions exist throughout the natural area. These are areas that have either one or multiple wetland indicators - wetland plants, wetland soils, and/or wetland hydrology. These areas will be managed carefully by the City, and the City will strive to leave native vegetation in place to slow-the-flow of water across the landscape, reduce erosion rates to protect the water quality of Lake Superior, and provide wildlife habitat. If the City desires to convert a habitat area to another use, it will first assess on-the-conditions and determine how it will mitigate for future ecological impacts. In some areas, the City may desire to work with a natural resource partner(s) to identify opportunities for restoration and enhancement. If view corridors are a concern, wetland vegetation will be thinned and/or limbed appropriately rather than mowing the entire area. By minimizing disturbance, the City will prevent invasive plants from establishing in these areas and will continue to provide important wildlife habitat.



- Lakeshore & Slope Protection

Several slopes within the parkway and adjacent to Lake Superior are steep in nature and contain sensitive soils. Even a stable looking slope is just marginally stable, and any slight land or vegetation disturbance can swing the slope to being unstable. Once slope failure begins, it is very difficult and expensive to repair.

The relative stability of a slope is related to many factors. One of the most important slope failure factors is the presence of water, both on top of the slope and within layers which make up the slope (shallow groundwater and water bearing sediment layers). Other than engineering methods to collect and/or redirect the water or best management practices to redirect the water away from the slope, vegetation is one of the best methods for slope water control. Vegetation helps strengthen the slope by binding soil particles within its roots, and by transpiring water from their leaves which also removes slope water. The best types of vegetation to use for slope stability are native grasses and shrubs. Because shrubs, such as willows, alders, and dogwoods, tolerate cutting and pruning, they can be a good choice in view corridors.

Mowing in the ravines, or along the lakeshore banks or slopes is highly discouraged (except in designated view corridors (See Appendix B) or to remove/control invasive plant species) in an effort to prevent erosion and promote bank stabilization, and to protect water quality and nearshore habitats of Lake Superior.

- Sourcing Fill

If fill is needed for a project, the City will strive to source clean fill meaning that all materials in the fill dirt are natural and do not contain any additive or dangerous materials such as refuse, metal, glass, invasive plant fragments or seeds, etc. Trail Creation

In the future, the City may desire to create additional trails. If so, they will be designed and implemented throughout the parkway with an emphasis on long-term sustainability, minimal impacts to natural resources, and to further enhance safe and enjoyable use by the public.

- Trail Creation

In the future, the City may desire to create additional trails. If so, they will be designed and implemented throughout the parkway with an emphasis on long-term sustainability, minimal impacts to natural resources, and to further enhance safe and enjoyable use by the public.

- Infrastructure

Additional trash cans, pet waste bag dispenser stations, benches, picnic tables, signage and other minor infrastructure may be considered in the future. To maintain the natural integrity of the area, materials will blend in with the natural environment.

City of Washburn Department of Public Works Maintenance Activities

Program of Work 2020				
Type of Activity	Description/Location	Timeline	Equipment	Criteria
Maintenance Mowing	Existing Trail corridor - 6 foot gravel trail tread and 2-3 feet of turf/low-growing plants on each side of trail	As needed		No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Upper area of Area 1 (Book Across the Bay parking)	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Parking lot of Area 4 and picnic area of Area 8	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Near trail entrance and exercise equipment	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Turf grass area of Areas 5 and 6	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Invasive Plant Species Mowing	Garden valerian in Area 2, Area 4, and existing trail corridor	Early summer before plant sets seed, and again in August to repress new growth	Brush mower, brush saw, or hand pulling	No restrictions
Invasive Plant Species Mowing	Garden valerian intermixed in brush near trail	Early summer before plant sets seed, and again in August to repress new growth	Brush saw or hand pulling	Leave 2-3 feet in height of native vegetation intact
Invasive Plant Species Mowing	Silvergrass near Area 4	Early summer before plant sets seed, and again in August to repress new growth	Brush mower	No restrictions
View Corridor Maintenance	Maintenance of vegetation in established view corridors	As needed	Varies	In accordance with Appendix B criteria
Monitor Infrastructure	Throughout natural area	As needed		

Program of Work 2021				
Type of Activity	Description/Location	Timeline	Equipment	References
Maintenance Mowing	Existing Trail corridor - 6 foot gravel trail tread and 2-3 feet of turf/low-growing plants on each side of trail	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Upper area of Area 1 (Book Across the Bay parking)	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Parking lot of Area 4 and picnic area of Area 8	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Near trail entrance and exercise equipment	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Turf grass area of Areas 5 and 6	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Invasive Plant Species Mowing	Garden valerian in Area 2, Area 4, and existing trail corridor	Early summer before plant sets seed, and again in August to repress new growth	Brush mower, brush saw, or hand pulling	Mow garden valerian selectively around new plantings and native plant growth in Areas 2 and 4. Do not mow native plants.
Invasive Plant Species Mowing	Garden valerian intermixed in brush near trail	Early summer before plant sets seed, and again in August to repress new growth	Brush saw or hand pulling	Leave 2-3 feet in height of native vegetation intact
Invasive Species Removal	Buckthorn and honeysuckle re-sprouts in previously treated areas throughout natural area	Late September/early October	Cut-stump treatment of larger stems Foliar treatment of smaller stems	Do not mow as this will cause re-sprouts
View Corridor Maintenance	Maintenance of vegetation in established view corridors	As needed	Varies	In accordance with Appendix B criteria
Monitor Infrastructure	Throughout natural area	As needed		

Program of Work 2022				
Type of Activity	Description/Location	Timeline	Equipment	References
Maintenance Mowing	Existing Trail corridor - 6 foot gravel trail tread and 2-3 feet of turf/low-growing plants on each side of trail	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Upper area of Area 1 (Book Across the Bay parking)	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Parking lot of Area 4 and picnic area of Area 8	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Near trail entrance and exercise equipment	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Maintenance Mowing	Turf grass area of Areas 5 and 6	As needed	Varies	No restrictions
Invasive Plant Species Mowing	Garden valerian in Area 2, Area 4, and existing trail corridor	Early summer before plant sets seed, and again in August to repress new growth	Brush mower, brush saw, or hand pulling	Mow garden valerian selectively around new plantings and native plant growth in Areas 2 and 4. Do not mow native plants.
Invasive Plant Species Mowing	Garden valerian intermixed in brush near trail	Early summer before plant sets seed, and again in August to repress new growth	Brush saw or hand pulling	Leave 2-3 feet in height of native vegetation intact
Invasive Species Removal	Buckthorn and honeysuckle re-sprouts in previously treated areas throughout natural area	Late September/early October	Cut-stump treatment of larger stems Foliar treatment of smaller stems	Do not mow as this will cause re-sprouts
View Corridor Maintenance	Maintenance of vegetation in established view corridors	As needed	Varies	In accordance with Appendix B criteria
Monitor Infrastructure	Throughout natural area	As needed		

Other Activities

These activities may be implemented as funding, resources, and need allow. City staff may wish to draw on experience and expertise from local and area natural resource agencies, organizations, and individuals for technical assistance. The City may also obtain assistance from local residents and organizations.

Type of Activity	Description/Location	Timeline	Equipment	References
Invasive Plant Species Inventory and Monitoring	The parkway area will be annually monitored for the presence and density of invasive plants, either by City staff or by volunteers familiar with invasive plant identification. By doing this, an inventory will be created, and areas will be more easily prioritized for removal and control activities. Following removal/control activities, the areas will continue to be evaluated for new infestations. As of 2018, the more prolific invasive species include common buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>), non-native honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera spp.</i>), garden valerian (<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>), common tansy (<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>), and watercress (<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>). Location: Throughout natural area.	During growing season	GPS, Recording Notebook	See Appendix C
Invasive Plant Species Removal and Control	Invasive plants will be treated by following Best Management Practices for the State of Wisconsin. This includes addressing at minimum: - Garden valerian - this is a NR40 listed species that is rapidly spreading in the northern counties of Wisconsin. - Buckthorn and honeysuckle - Ornamental Silvergrass Location: Throughout natural area.	Annuals - Biannuals - Woody Species - Fall	Mower Brushsaw Loppers Herbicide as prescribed	See reference section for plant descriptions and treatment recommendations
Native Plantings	Trees, shrubs, and understory species native to Wisconsin and climate resilient as appropriate. Native trees, shrubs, and understory species will create a diversity of forest types, shrub-	Spring (May)	Planting plan and design by qualified natural resource expert Planting shovels	See reference section for list of native plant species and how to plant

	<p>scrub habitat areas, and pollinator habitat areas which will provide habitat and build climate resiliency.</p> <p>Location: In previously disturbed areas such as Area 2 and Area 4, and along the lakeshore. In areas where invasive plants have been removed and controlled.</p>		Deer protection if needed	
Edible Plantings	<p>Species such as raspberry, blueberry, blackberry, serviceberry, wild plum, highbush cranberry, elderberry, hazelnut, etc.</p> <p>Location: In areas easily accessible by the public.</p>	Spring or Fall (species dependent)	<p>Planting plan and design</p> <p>Shovels</p> <p>Deer protection if needed</p>	
Maintenance of Restored Areas	<p>Activities that will ensure plantings and restoration activities are successful including minor erosion fixes, watering, reseeding, and mowing to control non-native species and competitive species.</p> <p>Location: Recently restored areas, sensitive areas (Area 5 and Area 6), and as needed throughout natural area.</p>	Spring/Summer		
Public Outreach & Education	<p>Adjacent landowners and/or other City residents may not be aware of the importance of vegetation along the lakeshore and its steep slopes for wildlife habitat, water quality, and climate resiliency in the face of rising lake water levels, changing wave action, and more frequent and severe rain events.</p>	Anytime	<p>Letters</p> <p>Meetings</p> <p>Phone Calls</p>	
Implementing Green Infrastructure Projects	<p>Green infrastructure projects such as permeable pavement, bioswales, rain gardens, infiltration trenches, plantings, and more effective stormwater management can be used to reduce erosion and sedimentation, resulting in improved water quality.</p> <p>Location: Near the lakeshore, in other key locations</p>	Variable	Variable	See reference section for Seagrant publication

PROPERTY ACCESS AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES

Access

As resources allow, the Washburn Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail will be made accessible to citizens and visitors including those with physical limitations, such as the elderly and people with physical disabilities. If funding and resources allow, ADA accessibility may be explored for at least parts of the trail.

- Recreational Use: the property will be open to the public for non-motorized forms of recreation, including, but not limited to, walking, hiking, biking, snow shoeing, cross-country skiing, swimming, picnicking, paddle sports, nature observation or study, fishing in accordance with local, state, and federal laws.
- Hours of Operation: 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
- Camping and Overnight Use: to be determined in the future.
- Property Boundaries: boundaries will be marked as needed, as determined by the City, through a licensed surveyor. If construction is planned near a known property boundary, surveying is advised.
- Emergency Property Closure: during times of high fire risk, severe flooding, or other events/issues where public safety is a concern, the property may be closed, or admittance restricted, as determined by the City.
- Pets: pets are to be leashed at all times, except in designated areas, and the owners will be held responsible for their pet's behavior.
- Commercial Use: no commercial advertising, distributions, solicitations or similar activities will be permitted. No commercial collection or harvesting of material or activity that results in for profit collection or harvesting of material is permitted.
- Other Restrictions: to be determined by the City.

Monitoring

Monitoring activities are a proven, reliable system for detecting any management and/or environmental issues that require attention and/or action. The management plan will be reviewed annually by the City's Parks Committee. The property will be regularly monitored by the City's Public Works Department or the City's Parks Committee to evaluate, among other things, the following:

- Presence of trash or similar debris specifically along walking trail, parking areas, beaches, and ravines. Monitoring will occur on a regular basis, more frequently during periods of high use. Monitoring levels will be adjusted accordingly, based primarily on the season and level or intensity of public use.
- Condition of the trail and parking areas. Additional monitoring and/or maintenance may be required depending on observations. Repairs will be made as needed, as funding allows, as determined by the City.
- Condition of infrastructure, including interpretive signs, benches, stairs, bridges, or other similar items. Damaged items/objects will be replaced as needed, as funding allows, as determined by the City.

- Hazard trees - the presence of hazard trees along and/or near any designated trail, trailhead, parking area or similar feature or in areas that receive regular public use, particularly those that pose an immediate or future safety concern. All identified hazard trees will be addressed based on the level of threat, as determined by City Public Works staff.
- Invasive plant species - presence and density
- Soil compaction and erosion - particularly off the designated trails, along the lakeshore and ravines, or within other sensitive areas. Additional mitigation efforts and/or signs may need to be adopted if public use is causing, or has potential to cause, significant degradation to the landscape, as determined by the City.
- Progress and effectiveness of restoration efforts, as opportunities arise, and actions are implemented.

IMPLEMENTING, REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE PLAN

Implementation

The City's Parks Committee recognizes that the ability for the City to implement this plan is funding and resource dependent. Additionally, it recognizes that the size of City staff is small, and not all City staff may have the experience or expertise to implement each activity. To implement this plan, the City should draw on experience and expertise from local and area natural resource agencies, organizations, and individuals for technical assistance. These groups may also be able to recommend funding resources to the City. Many natural resource professionals live in and near the City, and they are passionate about Washburn's Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail. The following agencies and organizations, among others, may be of assistance:

- USFS Washburn Ranger District - wildlife biologists, foresters, planners, etc.
- USFWS Ashland office - wildlife biologists, fish biologists, planners, etc.
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - planning assistance
- Bayfield County - land and water conservation department, planning and zoning department, land records department, and forestry and parks department, as well as other
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - wildlife biologists, stormwater and water quality experts, and foresters, etc.
- University of Wisconsin Extension Service - planning assistance
- University of Wisconsin Sea Grant - coastal assessment and engineering assistance
- Northland College - professors and students in the natural resources department
- Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area
- Chequamegon Audubon Society

Additionally, other municipalities in the Chequamegon Bay area may be able to offer experience and expertise, including the City of Ashland and the City of Bayfield.

Review and Revision of Management Plan

The City of Washburn's Public Works Department, with the help of the City Staff will oversee the property and assess progress toward the management plan objectives. Any citizen or city employee may suggest a revision to the Washburn Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail Maintenance Plan, which the City Staff will review. If a proposed revision is recommended by the Committee, it will be brought before City Council. If approved, it will be incorporated into the plan, and the new Land Management Plan will be dated and noted as a revision.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Photopoint Map, Coordinates of Photopoints, and Photos

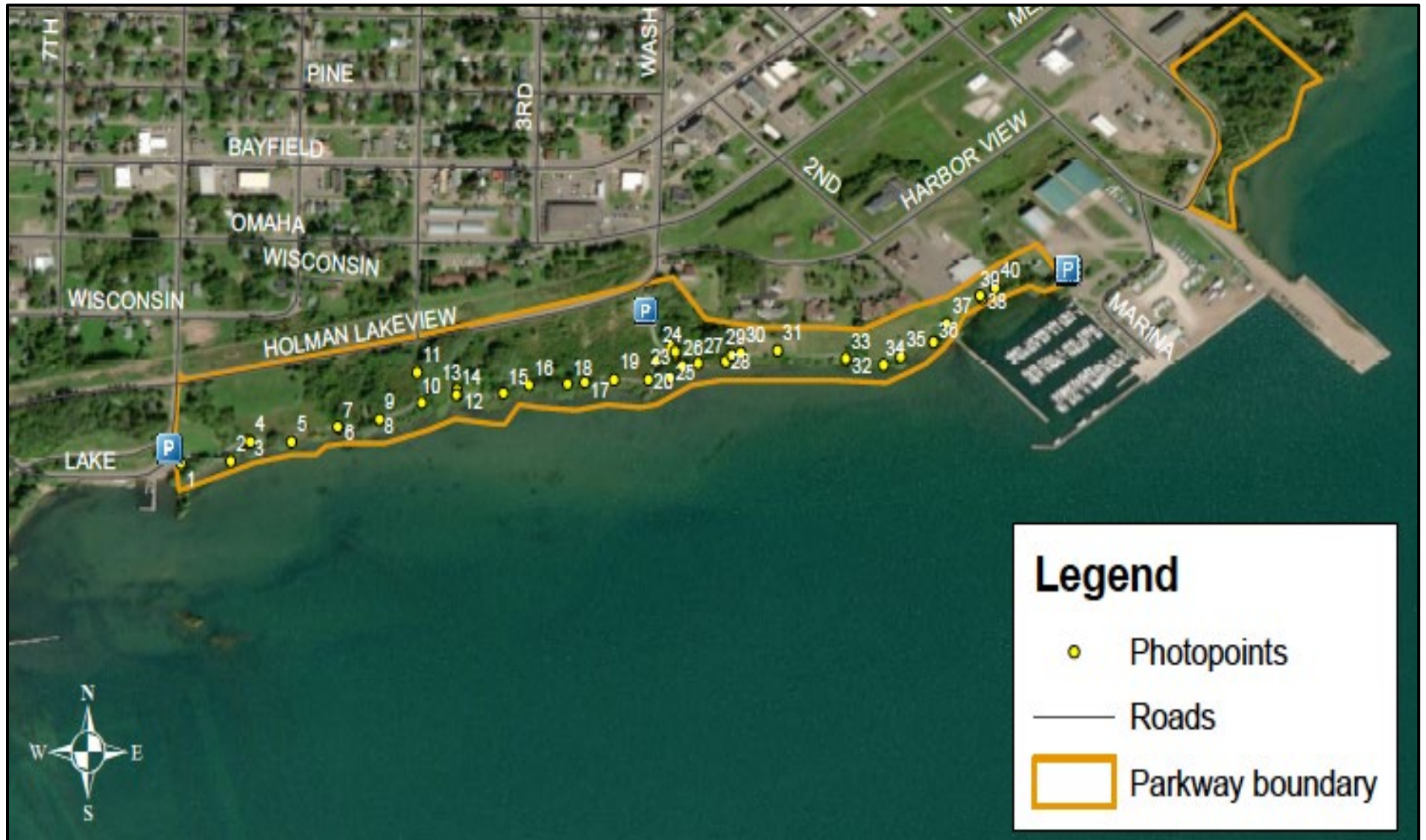


Photo #	Description	Longitude	Latitude	Compass Bearing (degrees)
1	Trail Entrance	-90.90237	46.6665	67
2	Interpretive Sign	-90.90159	46.6666	128
3	Interpretive Sign	-90.901316	46.6668	47
4	Culvert and Erosion	-90.90129	46.6668	129
5	Shoreline	-90.90065	46.6668	92
6	Shoreline near bridge	-90.8999	46.667	103
7	Bridge in Ravine 1	-90.89992	46.667	95
8	Bench and View Corridor	-90.89928	46.6671	155
9	Bench and View Corridor	-90.89927	46.6671	225
10	Area 2	-90.89861	46.6673	324
11	Bridge in Ravine 2	-90.89868	46.6677	59
12	View Corridor	-90.89804	46.6674	170
13	Area 3	-90.89806	46.6675	67
14	View Corridor and Picnic Area	-90.89807	46.6674	102
15	View Corridor and Picnic Area	-90.89734	46.6675	210
16	Area 4	-90.89693	46.6676	83
17	Area 4	-90.89606	46.6676	26
18	Culvert and small drainage	-90.89633	46.6676	190
19	View Corridor	-90.89561	46.6676	166
20	Interpretive sign and view corridor	-90.89507	46.6676	169

21	Unauthorized trail	-90.89495	46.6679	97
22	Interpretive sign	-90.89472	46.6681	309
23	Bench	-90.89464	46.668	207
24	Stairs to beach/Ravine 3	-90.89465	46.668	179
25	Bridge and beach	-90.89464	46.6672	145
26	Stairs	-90.89454	46.6678	53
27	Eroding slope	-90.89429	46.6679	252
28	Wetland area and culvert	-90.89387	46.6679	348
29	Condo area and trail	-90.89376	46.668	76
30	View Corridor	-90.89363	46.668	140
31	Culvert and drainage	-90.89305	46.668	80
32	Bridge	-90.89197	46.6679	61
33	Bridge	-90.89198	46.6679	86
34	Eroding slope and view corridor	-90.89139	46.6678	121
35	Eroding slope	-90.89113	46.6679	61
36	View corridor and bench	-90.89061	46.6681	207
37	Interpretive sign and access to dock	-90.8904	46.6684	159
38	Fishing Dock	-90.88985	46.6687	197
39	Marina area	-90.88989	46.6688	65
40	Trail entrance - Marina end	-90.88965	46.6689	51

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 7



Photo 8



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 11



Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 19



Photo 20



Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 21



Photo 22



Photo 17



Photo 18



Photo 23



Photo 24



Photo 25



Photo 26



Photo 31



Photo 32



Photo 27



Photo 28



Photo 33



Photo 34



Photo 29



Photo 30



Photo 35



Photo 36



Photo 37



Photo 38



Photo of Area 8 - Taken 1/4/2020



Photo 39



Photo 40



Photo of Area 8 - Taken 1/4/2020



Appendix B: View Corridor Criteria and Map

Maintaining view corridors along the pathway and near overlook benches allow for community enjoyment of Lake Superior as an integral part of the natural beauty of the walking trail.

Criteria for View Corridor Maintenance

View corridors will be maintained in the existing multiple locations along the walking trail (See Map Below and Appendix A). Strategies for maintenance of the view corridors will be tailored toward minimizing the need for regular trimming or mowing in acknowledgement of the limited resources of City staff for these tasks. While photos of each view corridor exist, each corridor should be assessed to determine what type of management actions are appropriate given existing plants, slope stability, erosion risk, etc. Activities may include:

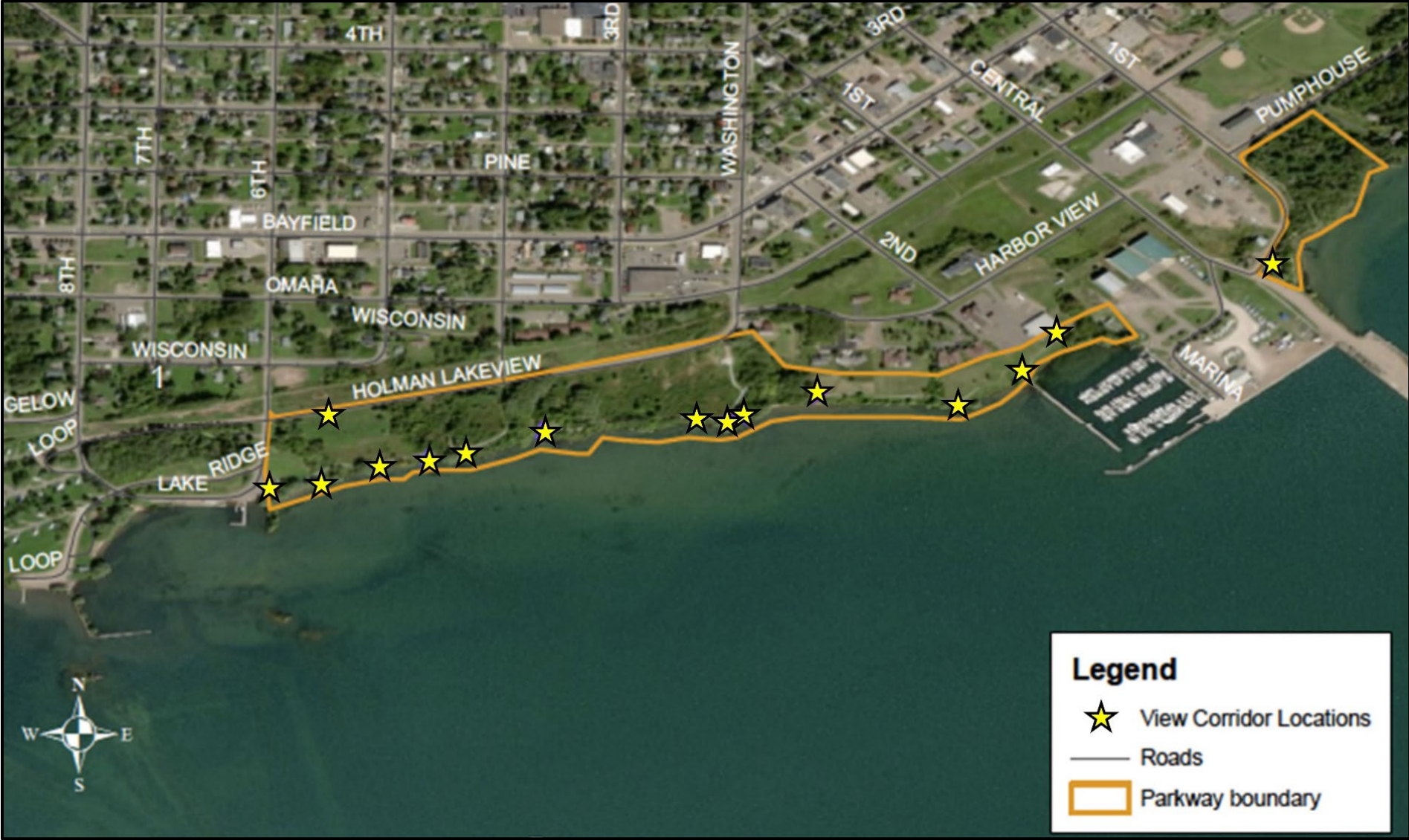
- Limiting cutting and trimming to retain low growth of plants. If vegetation is cut, it is recommended that it will not be cut below 2-3 feet in height. Limit root disturbance during corridor maintenance activities.
- Selectively limbing mature trees to allow for viewsheds below the tree canopy level without removing mature hardwood and conifer trees. Removing trees is discouraged unless they pose a safety hazard.
- Selectively planting view corridor areas (using appropriate species and spacing) to encourage plant species that contribute to slope stabilization while reaching a lower mature height. If necessary, a plan will be written by a qualified natural resource expert and reviewed by the City's Staff before implementing restoration activities.
- Maintain lake views in front of the condo/business area (Area 5 and 6) while protecting the shoreline and slopes. To accomplish this, trees and shrubs on banks and slopes may be selectively limbed as needed but at minimum, low-growing vegetation will be left in place to hold the soil. It is recommended that vegetation will not be cut below 2-3 feet in height and limit root disturbance during viewshed maintenance activities.

Criteria for New Corridor Creation

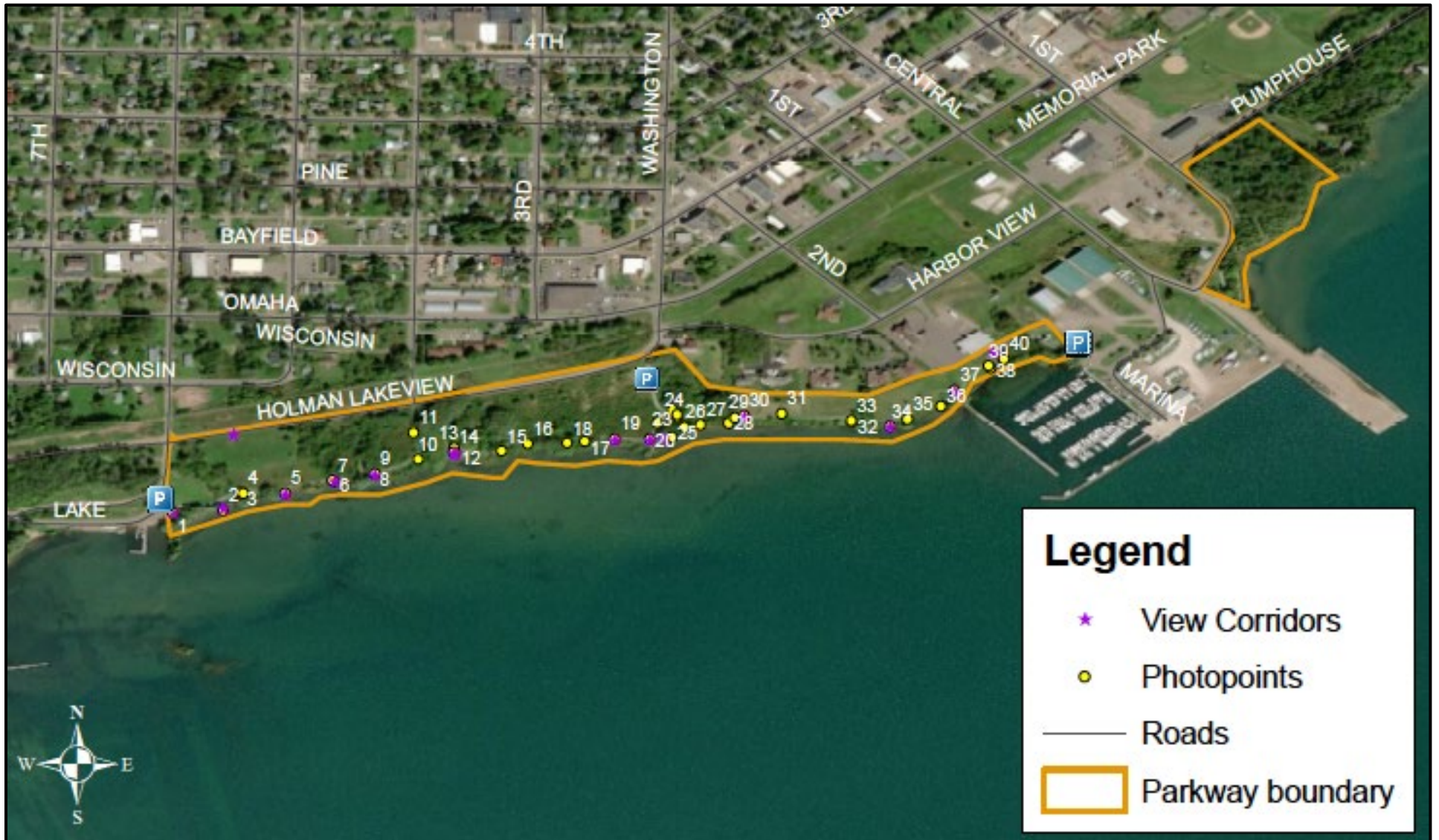
If additional view corridors are desired, location and size will be carefully considered by the City's Parks Committee (if committee is still standing) and City Staff. Activities may include:

- Consultation with natural resource partners as needed, to evaluate erosion vulnerability and other natural resource impacts that may result due to clearing vegetation.

View Corridor Map



Infrastructure Locations & Current Conditions with View Corridors



Appendix C: Description of Invasive Plant Species and Treatment Recommendations

Invasive plant species have multiple negative impacts. The Great Lakes sport and commercial fishing industry, valued at almost \$4.5 billion and supporting 81,000 jobs, is at risk due to the growing numbers of invasive species present in its waters. According to US Forest Service, invasive species have contributed to the decline of 42% of endangered and threatened species in the U.S. Invasive plants compete directly with native species for moisture, sunlight, nutrients, and space and decrease plant diversity. Additionally, the establishment and spread of invasive species can degrade wildlife habitat and decrease recreation opportunities.

Controlling invasive species and their spread is possible, but each species requires a different solution. Sometimes, herbicide is the most effective treatment. Best Management Practices recommended by the State of Wisconsin will be followed when addressing invasive plants. By addressing the invasive plants that occur in high densities along the parkway and the invasive plants that are just gaining a foothold, the City will help protect and enhance native plants and wildlife habitat as well as set an example for residents and other communities. As conditions change, the City may prioritize the control/removal of additional invasive plants.

Invasive Plants in Washburn’s Lakeshore Parkway that will be targeted for removal/control include:

Common Buckthorn – *Rhamnus cathartica*

Description

- Understory tree or shrub that grows 20-25 feet tall
- Gray to brown bark, with gray-white pores on the stem
- Dark green and glossy leaves remain on plant into late fall
- Fruit is black in color and pea-sized and grows in clusters
- Inhibits growth of other plants by releasing chemicals

Treatment

- Mechanical removal of plant and roots
- Cut stump treatment with herbicide in the fall
- Basal bark treatment with herbicide in winter and early spring



Common Tansy – *Tanacetum vulgare*

Description

- Perennial herbaceous plant, 2-5 feet tall
- Alternate, pinnately compound leaves. Leaves are strongly aromatic.
- Bright yellow, button-like disc flowers
- Extensive spreading root system

Treatment

- Mow prior to seeding
- Mechanical removal of plant and roots
- Foliar treatment with herbicide prior to flowering. Target rosettes if possible.



Eurasian Honeysuckle – *Lonicera spp.*

Description

- Deciduous shrub growing up to 15 feet tall
- Hollow, shaggy stem. Leaves appear early and remain green late
- White to pink flowers
- Fruit is orange-red and is eaten and spread by birds
- Inhibits growth of other plants by releasing chemicals

Treatment

- Mechanical removal of plant and roots
- Cut stump treatment with herbicide in the fall
- Basal bark treatment with herbicide in winter and early spring



Garden Valerian – *Valeriana officinalis*

Description

- Opposite, pinnately compound leaves
- White to pale-pink tiny flowers in tight clusters
- Small capsules release powdery seeds
- Invades forests, wetlands, grasslands, and stream edges

Treatment

- Mechanical removal of plant and roots prior to flowering
- Mow plants prior to flowering
- Foliar treatment with herbicide prior to flowering



Ornamental Silvergrass – *Miscanthus spp.*

Description

- Popular ornamental landscaping grass that is spreading
- Invades woodlands and grasslands
- Leaves are up to 3 feet long with silvery mid-ribs and sharp tips
- Plants produce fluffy, silvery-pink to beige, fan-shaped seed heads
- Extremely flammable and increases fire risk

Treatment

- Must kill entire root system due to rhizomous habit
- Foliar treatment with herbicide prior to flowering
- Mow plants very short each month throughout the growing season to reduce density
- Do not mow while dormant. Do not burn unless herbicide is used first.



Purple Loosestrife – *Lythrum salicaria*

Description

- Perennial wetland plant
- Pink-rose or light purple flowers closely attached to the stem
- Seeds produced July through October, with a single stem producing 100,000-300,000 seeds per year. Seeds are viable for at least 7 years.

Treatment

- Mechanical removal of young plants if all root fragments removed. Landfill all plant parts.
- Do Not Mow as plant parts may re-establish
- Foliar treatment with herbicide prior to flowering. If near water, aquatic formulas should be used.
- Biocontrol beetles available in some areas

