

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



715-373-6160
715-373-6161
FAX 715-373-6148

NOTICE OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: March 16, 2021

TIME: 5:00 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/83771889166?pwd=L2dmeHFqUWZrUjJwcERyZ0lVallUdz09> or by calling 888-788-0099 (Toll-free) and entering Mtg ID: 837 7188 9166 and Passcode: 031621. Limited seating will be available at the meeting and guests are asked to keep a six-foot distance from one another.

Agenda:

- Call to Order/Roll Call
- Approval of the February 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Updates from Public Works Department
- Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan
- Discussion & Action of Comprehensive Plan/Outdoor Recreation Plan Visioning Exercise
- 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.

February 16, 2021

CITY OF WASHBURN PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

4:00 PM

In-person and Video Conference Call due to Covid-19 pandemic

Members Present:

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

Municipal Personnel:

City Administrator Scott Kluver, Assistant City Administrator
Tony Janisch, Public Works Director Gerry Schuette

Other:

Eric Howell (NW Regional Planning Commission)

Absent:

Kyleleen Bartnick

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by Maziasz. 4 members confirmed present; quorum met.

Approval of the December 15, 2020 Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from December 15, 2020 by Croll, second by Cook with edit to Croll's last name. Motion carried unanimously.

Updates from Public Works Department

Public Works Director Gerry Schuette and Janisch gave the following updates:

- Department has ordered lumber to repair benches and picnic tables.
- Department will be doing landscaping where tree stumps have been removed.
- Department will be repairing two walking bridges in Memorial Park before summer.
- Along the walking trail, department will repair the step and washouts.
- Some minor repairs will be made to campground sites including electric box repairs and asphalt repairs.
- In fall 2020, a new loop road was constructed in Memorial Park and two campsites were moved. Bayfield County will be updating the campground map and the City will put it on its website.
- The road into Memorial Park is currently closed due to shoreline erosion particularly in front of the pavilion due to motorized vehicles accessing the lake.
- The skate rink has been open, and the Washburn Public Library has been checking out skates for a 2-week period. The rink is being well used.
- In January, the commercial use ordinance went to the City Council for discussion. On February 4th, a public input session was held, and the Chamber of Commerce was present as well and very helpful. The draft ordinance was then moved back to City Council at the February meeting but there was not adequate time to discuss. The City Council will further discuss it at its March meeting.

Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan

- A contract has been put together to remove and control invasive plants along the lakeshore as that part of the restoration work will begin soon. Lang will work with Schuette to identify where cut invasive plants can be piled for disposal following removal. Lang reviewed that some woody invasive plants will be cut and removed, and the stump treated with herbicide following the state's best management practices. Other woody invasive plants will not be mechanically removed and instead a basal bark treatment will occur. There will be a lack of vegetation temporarily between the period

when invasive plants are removed and before native plants are restored. The contractor will install temporary signage during the work period to inform residents. Work will occur before the busy season so trail users will be minimally affected.

- Lang will reach out to Schuette to walk the area with him and review how the management plan came together.
- Lang and Cook will be working together on brainstorming types and potential designs for the interpretive signage that is part of the grant funded project. They will bring forth ideas to the Parks Committee. Other organizations will also be consulted for their ideas such as Washburn Heritage Association.

Discussion & Action of Comprehensive Plan/Outdoor Recreation Plan

Janisch reminded everyone that the City of Washburn will be updating their Comprehensive Plan and this process will also include the development of an Outdoor Recreation Plan. Right now, the City of Washburn's recreational opportunities are described at a basic level in Bayfield County's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. The City's Plan Commission will be leading the effort to update the comprehensive plan.

Eric Howell from the Northwest Regional Planning Commission informed Parks Committee members that there are some recreation plans from cities with a similar population size from which we can draw. He will be helping to lead the committee through this process. He explained that he will work with the committee to review background plans and existing documents. Additionally, input will be solicited from the public at a later date. Lang mentioned that the City of Superior and City of Ashland have done similar planning related to recreation and there may be good information to review in those documents. We will continue to discuss the creation of an outdoor recreation plan at the next Parks Committee meeting.

Future Topics

- Continue parks inventory/evaluation.
- Parks activities and budget for 2021
- Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan
- Outdoor Recreation Plan development

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned shortly after 5:00 pm.

Erika Lang
Parks Committee Secretary

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CITY OF WASHBURN
Office of Director of Public Works
119 Washington Avenue
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Mobile 715-292-1205
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TO: Parks Committee

FROM: Department of Public Work Director

RE: 2021 Parks Spring Projects

DATE: March 11, 2021

Repairing Picnic Benches

- Public Works has purchased 700 - 2x8's to repair and replace existing broken picnic tabletops, seats throughout parks systems.
- Work to be completed by City Staff Spring April/May Time frame.

Landscaping (Scheduled for Week of April 5th, 2021)

- Grind out existing stumps and repair damage areas from stumps pulled in fall of 2020.
- Work to be completed by City Staff April Prior to Camping Areas opening.

Patch Work

- Memorial Park has some asphalt patch work from repairing water line.
- Work may be completed by outside sources depending on material, time frame.

Memorial Park

- Repair of Two (2) Walking Bridges (*Scheduled for Week of March 29, 2021*).
- Work will remove 2 of walking bridges and be replaced, materials purchased in 2020 with some on hand materials in stock.
- Work to be completed by City Staff late March/Early April.

Walking Trail

- Spot Repair of Walking Trail from spring and fall washouts. Late April/Early May.
- Some major repairs to Walking Trails steps & bridges in summer of 2021 June/July.

Camp Sites

- Re-grading and Shaping of Pads (*Scheduled for Week of April 12, 2021*).
- Repair and upgrade Electric Boxes and Water Distribution Sites.
- Repair and Upgrading Lighting within Camping Areas (*Scheduled for Week of April 19th*)
- To be completed by Staff April/May/June

Playground Equipment @ West End

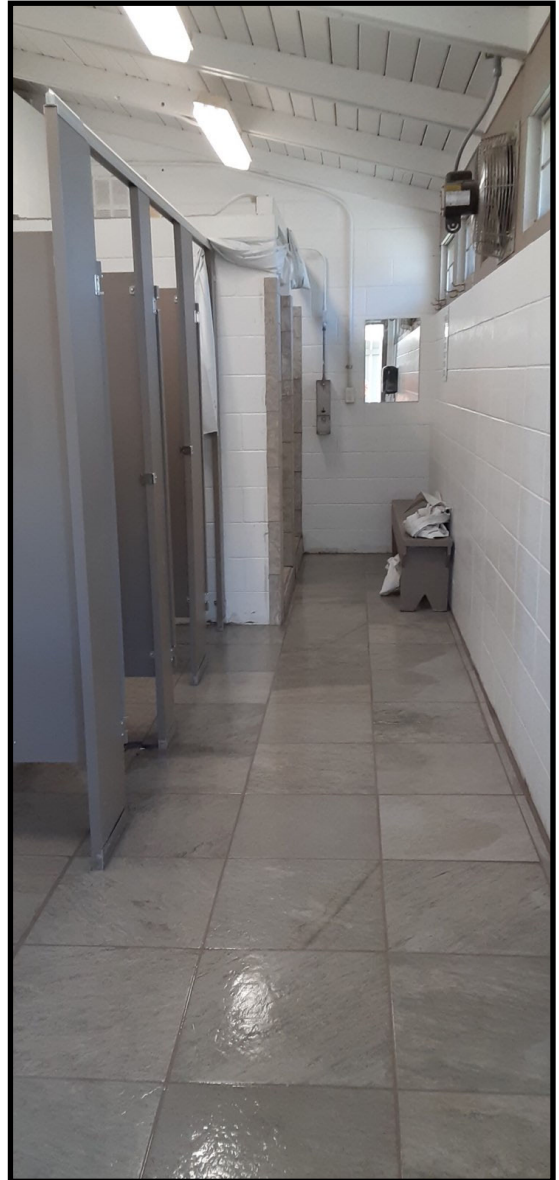
- Needs some minor repairs to walkways, railing. To be completed in by Late April.

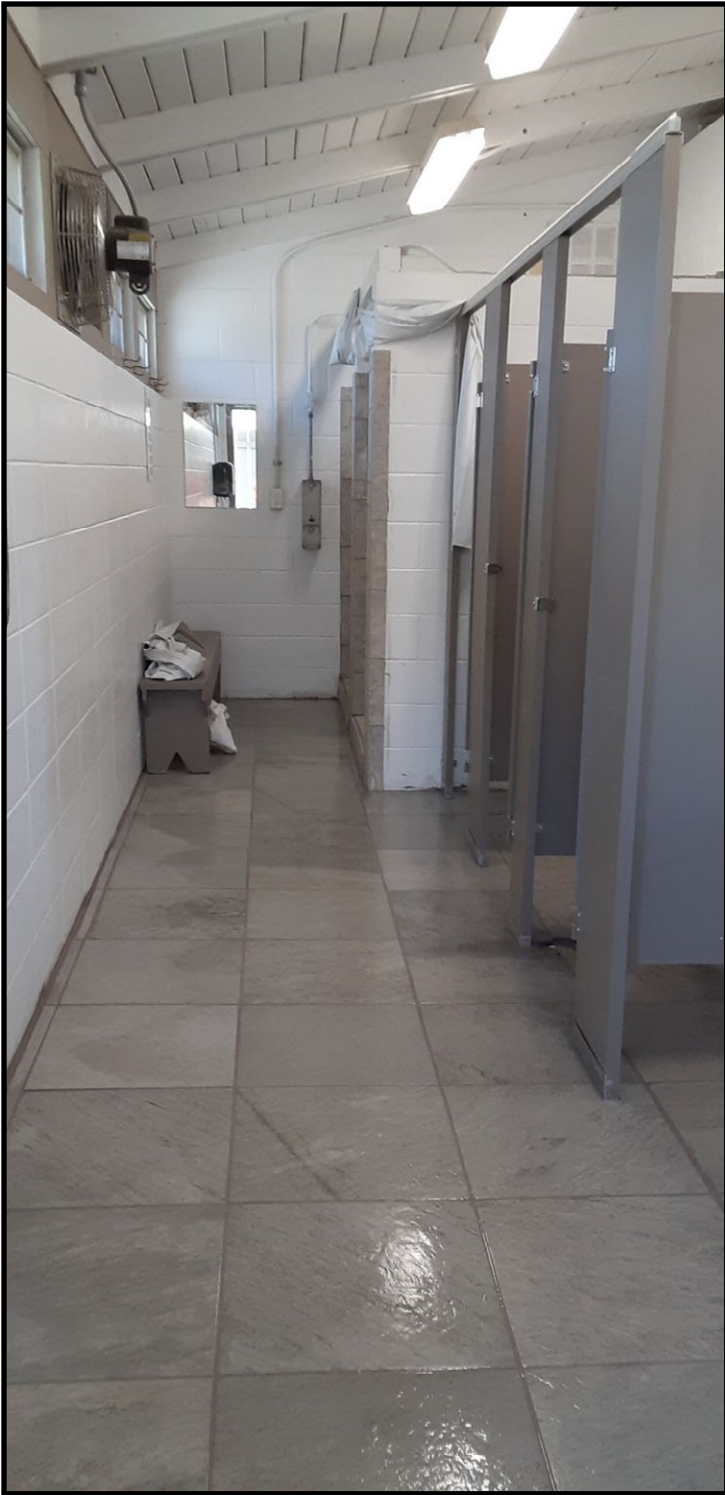
Rest Room/Showers West End

- New Asphalt Shingle Roof (Looking at pricing). To be completed by City Staff Early April.

This is scheduled work, more items to come as scheduling progresses.

Gerald J Schuette
Department of Public Works





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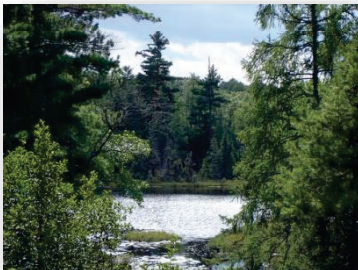
To: Parks Committee
From: Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator
Re: Outdoor Recreation Planning Visioning Exercise
Date: March 11, 2021

At February's meeting, we began discussing the development of an Outdoor Recreation Plan for the City. As mentioned, and provided last month, the City is already included in the Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan; but only to the extent of listing existing facilities and identifying improvements. (*I have provided this again.*) A City specific plan would be more comprehensive to the needs of the community.

It was also asked last month if an example of a plan could be shared. Recently, the City of Bayfield shared their draft Outdoor Recreation Plan for review and action. This draft is included and will give an idea of what we are trying to accomplish.

Jason Laumann & Eric Howell, from the Northwest Regional Planning Commission, will be joining the meeting to initiate a Visioning Exercise as we move into this planning.

Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan



2015-2019

Amended 4/17/2018



Bayfield County Board of Supervisors

Beth Meyers

William D. Bussey

Kenneth [Bucky] Jardine

Harold A. Maki

Delores [Dee] Kittleson, *Vice Chair*

John Bennett

Dennis M. Pocernich, *Chairman*

Fred Strand

Wayne [Rusty] Williams

Marco T. Bichanich

Shawn W. Miller

James A. Crandall

Brett T. Rondeau

The preparation of this report was completed by the Bayfield County Forestry & Parks Department.

Administrator
Jason Bodine

Resolution

ADOPTING THE BAYFIELD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

WHEREAS, Bayfield County, has developed a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan;
and

WHEREAS, this plan outlines foreseeable outdoor recreation facility needs of Bayfield County that can be adequately maintained; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors hereby formally adopt the Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as the official policy statement for the development of outdoor recreation programs and facilities in Bayfield County.

BAYFIELD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dennis M. Pocernich, Chairman

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
)ss.
BAYFIELD COUNTY)

I, Scott S. Fibert, Bayfield County Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Volume 22, adopted by the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors at their meeting held on the ____ day of _____, 2010.

Scott S. Fibert, Bayfield County Clerk

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Introduction

Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin containing 966,000 acres and it has abundant land and water recreational resources. This updated plan will serve as a guide for the development of existing and future outdoor recreation areas and facilities in the county to meet the recreational needs of its residents and visitors.

The plan is a cooperative effort between Bayfield County and its many municipalities and one tribal government. Development and adoption of this updated recreation plan will enable Bayfield County and other governmental entities in the county to be eligible to apply for a number of outdoor recreational grant programs including: the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), the Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Program, the Aid for the Acquisition of Urban Green Space Program, and the Urban Rivers Grant Program.

Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is as follows:

Goal

Provide a guide for the development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities in Bayfield County to meet the outdoor recreational needs of county residents and visitors.

In order to help attain this goal, a number of plan objectives have been identified, including:

Objectives

1. Promote the development and maintenance of quality recreation areas, parks and facilities in the county.
2. Identify the responsibility of the county and other governmental entities within the county to provide areas and facilities for recreational activities.
3. Help protect important aesthetic and environmental resources in the county for recreational uses through acquisition, easements and zoning.
4. Identify the outdoor recreational needs in the county.
5. Provide eligibility to the county and other governmental entities within the county to apply for federal and state grant funding programs for outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

CITY OF WASHBURN

THOMPSON WEST END PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Campground
- Campsite Cable Hook-ups/Electrical sites and WIFI.
- Shower & restroom facilities in ADA compliance.
- Information kiosk and payment pipe
- Sewage dump station.
- Two Flowing wells.
- Festival area.

Recommended Improvements:

- Extending water & sewer utilities to campsites.
- Replacement of playground equipment.
- Additional covered picnic shelter.
- Extension of Lakefront Trail through park.
- Construction of year around ADA compliant restrooms within festival area.
- Purchase of an automated Beach Rake.
- Extending water utilities to festival area.
- Replace fishing pier, to include ADA compliance.
- Construct roof structure over flowing wells and upgrade piping.
- Construct equipment storage building.
- Extending adequate power facilities to festival area.
- Paving of parking lot with permeable materials.
- Expansion of playground area.
- Construction of gazebo by waterfront.
- Drive, for surface water management and park expansion.
- Pathways and access trails in park that comply with ADA.

BAYFIELD COUNTY LCORP

- Covered picnic shelter.
- Picnic area.
- Swimming beach.
- Playground area.
- One 75' fishing pier.
- Boat launch & docks.
- Storm water conveyance pond.

- Expansion of Maritime Trails signage within park.
- Erosion control along lakefront.
- Construct campfire program area with seating.
- Storm water management improvements.
- Reduce lake level of Lake Superior.
- Development of additional campsites.
- Development of additional camping areas.
- Landscaping of current and any additional camping areas.
- Expand restroom/shower facilities within campground, with ADA compliance.
- Extension of municipal utilities to additional campsites and restrooms.
- Development of additional picnic and recreation facilities e.g. playground equipment, disc golf course and public pavilions.
- Construction of appropriate parking facilities for park facilities, including boat ramp and beach

WEST END PARK BOAT LANDING

Existing Facilities:

- Lakefront & Maritime Trails Trail head
- Fitness Area and Equipment
- Boat Docks
- Boat Launch
- Overflow Camping Area
- Paved & Grass Parking Area
- Sailing, Kayak, Rowing Shell Instruction Beach

Recommended Improvements:

- Extending water & sewer utilities to public facilities at boat launch
- Construction of ADA compliant restrooms
- Storm water management improvements.
- Construction of community center
- Construction of access roads and parking by community center
- Removal of pilings to permit better water access to landing
- Construction of larger boat and trailer parking lot by boat ramp
- Extension of Lakefront Trail through park
- Addition of picnic tables and benches
- Expansion of Maritime Trails signage within park
- Relocate instructional facilities, and indoor storage for sailing, kayaking and rowing programs
- Landscaping and tree planting
- Purchase of buoys to mark channel to boat landing
- Dredging of the boat ramp area

PUBLIC LANDS - THOMPSON WEST END PARK TO SOUTH CITY LIMITS

Existing Facilities:

- ATV & Snowmobile Trail

Recommended Improvements:

- Extension of Lakefront Trail and Maritime Trail from Thompson's West End Park westward along lakefront to the south city limits (Summit Avenue).
- Construction of parking lot at trail head by Summit Avenue (south city limits).
- Design and construction of cross-country ski trails.
- Transition old railroad grade to multipurpose trail to include walking, biking, skiing.
- Construction of pedestrian bridge across Thompson Creek.
- Grading and surfacing of ATV/snowmobile trail along old railroad grade.
- Completion of ATV/snowmobile bridge across Thompson Creek.
- Installation of signage along trails.
- Installation of benches and picnic tables.
- Construction of fishing pier south of Thompson Creek.
- Purchase additional lands.
- Construction of trail shelters.
- Construction of boardwalks over marshy areas of pedestrian trail

FORMER RAILROAD GRADE WITHIN CITY

Existing Facilities:

- ATV & Snowmobile Trail

Recommended Improvements:

- Purchase remaining railroad right-of-way in private hands between 4th Avenue East and Gary Road.
- Construction of ATV/Snowmobile trail and/or silent sports trail between 4th Avenue East and Gary Road.
- Transition old railroad grade to multipurpose trail to include walking, biking, skiing.
- Install signage as required.
- Landscaping as necessary.
- Grade and resurface trail throughout the city.
- Relocate overhead power lines.

LAKEFRONT PARKWAY

Existing Facilities:

- Gravel trail from 6th Avenue West to 1st Avenue East
- Maritimes Trail & Historical signage
- Picnic tables and benches
- Parking & trail head at 4th Avenue West
- Bridges over ravines
- Landscaping with native species
- 6th Avenue West to Washington Avenue is ADA accessible
- Unguarded beaches
- Parking & trail head at Washington Avenue

Recommended Improvements:

- Improve trail heads and parking lots.
- Pave entire trail for ADA accessibility.
- Install additional benches and picnic tables.
- Relocation of trail within Washburn Marina.
- Expansion of trail from 1st Avenue East to Memorial Park.
- Update of management plan.
- Renovation of trail between Washington Avenue and Marina with switchbacks and bridges across ravines to insure ADA accessibility.
- Install decorative and safety lighting as necessary.
- Expansion of picnic or pet exercising areas.
- Expansion of Maritime Trails, historical and informational signage within parkway.
- Expansion of Trail from 6th Avenue West to Summit Avenue.
- Replace existing and install new bridges across ravines as necessary.
- Remove invasive plant species, plant native species.

WASHBURN MARINA

Existing Facilities:

- 138 Boat slips
- Piers & Docks with utility hook-up
- Outdoor boat storage
- Boat lift
- Covered picnic shelter
- Store
- Petroleum sales
- Boat launch
- Fish cleaning station
- Paved and unpaved parking areas
- Restrooms & shower facilities
- Office building and repair building
- Lounge

Recommended Improvements:

- Addition of campsites.
- Replace pier decking on piers.
- Landscape to eliminate industrial look
- Replacement of existing office building with enlarged office, store and lounge.
- Construction of laundry facilities.
- Construction of playground area.
- Build enhancements to lakefront trail.
- Extension of south break wall to better protect interior basin opening.
- Installation of safety equipment on break wall and piers.
- Construction of picnic area.
- Construction of additional marina basin for 50- 100 additional slips.
- Relocation of lakefront trail.
- Repair and expansion of parking areas.

COMMERCIAL DOCK & BEACH

Existing Facilities:

- Mooring bollard for commercial boats
- Fishing area
- Beach

Recommended Improvements at Beach:

- Upgrade parking at beach area
- Install benches or picnic tables
- Construct ADA bathroom
- Construction of premier (yurt style) campsite
- Purchase beach grooming equipment

ATHLETIC FIELDS & SKATE RINKS

Existing Facilities:

- Regulation softball field
- Regulation baseball field
- Regulation little league field
- 2 ice rinks
- Restrooms, concession stand, warming building
- Parking and access road
- Snowmobile trail

Recommended Improvements:

- Reconstruction of skate park ramps.
- Re-contouring of skating rink walls to permit better maintenance of landscaping.
- Paving of parking lot.
- Additional tree planting and landscaping.
- Electronic scoreboards at all fields.
- Installation of lighting at fields.
- Pave access road to concession stand.
- Reconstruct little league dugout.
- Construct press box and announcer's stand at all fields.
- Extend lakefront parkway walking trail through park.
- Install additional benches and picnic tables at park.
- Construct new access road to park via 2nd Avenue East.
- Relocate and reconstruct skate park.
- Better sealing of east skating rink basin to permit it to hold water better.
- Improvement in storm water handling.
- Complete fencing of little league field.
- Installation of bleachers at all fields.
- Construction and paving of pedestrian walkways throughout park that are ADA compliant.
- Extend water lines to softball field and little league field.
- Install better directional signage to park.
- Construct covered picnic pavilion at little league field.
- Prepare park development plan for Athletic Fields Park.
- Place fencing around baseball field and skate park at other locations.
- Construct equipment storage buildings.
- Install additional paved walkways.
- Construct field sports area including paved athletic track, bleachers, lighting and fencing.
- Construct dugouts at boy's baseball field and repair other dugouts.
- Purchase additional lands.

MEMORIAL PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Campground
- Covered picnic shelter
- Dump station
- Electric and cable TV service to some sites and WIFI.
- Playground
- Historic kitchen building
- Picnic areas
- Pathways and bridges across ravines
- Restrooms and shower building
- Information kiosk and payment pipe
- Parking area
- Park gate (South 6th Avenue East)

Recommended Improvements:

- Preparation of campground development plan.
- Renovation and redesign of campsites to facilitate access and identification.
- Install additional benches and picnic table.
- Expansion of lakefront trail through park.
- Construction of primitive campsites.
- Construction of premier (yurt style) campsites
- Extension of water lines within park.
- Construction of additional ADA compliant trails and pathways within park.
- Construction of concession stand.
- Construction of additional pedestrian bridges across ravines.
- Pave access roads.
- Construct new or renovate restroom/shower building to ADA compliance.
- Construction of fishing pier.
- Renovation & expansion of playground area.
- Replace playground equipment.
- Expansion of maritime trails, historical and informational signage within park.
- Re-establishment of fitness trail within park.
- Reconstruction of caretaker's house.
- Upgrading and expansion of electric service to campsites.
- Extension of sanitary sewer lines within park.
- Purchase of additional lands.
- Construction of additional picnic pavilion.
- Construction of beach access steps.
- Construct bandstand.
- Install sand lot volleyball courts.
- Construct campfire program area with seating.
- Storm water management best management practices

INTER-COMMUNITY TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare recreational trail plan over abandoned railroad corridor between Washburn and Ashland for mixed use activities.
- Prepare recreational trail plan over abandoned railroad or existing highway corridors between Washburn and Bayfield for silent sports.
- Legal work to purchase lands and acquire easements as necessary.
- Surface trail with gravel or asphalt as warranted.
- Provide trail heads and parking as needed.
- Prepare maps and trail brochures.
- Undertake clearing and grade trail as necessary.
- Install bridges as necessary.
- Install signage as necessary.

DUPONT LINEAR PARK

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare park development plan.
- Provide clearing and grading of silent sports trail.
- Install benches.
- Surface trail with gravel.
- Prepare & publish maps and brochures of park.
- Purchase additional lands and easements as necessary to provide access to park, extend park and establish trail heads.
- Provide signage as necessary.
- Install gates at access points to limit motorized vehicles.

WASHBURN GREEN CIRCLE TRAIL

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare trail development plan.
- Provide clearing and grading of silent sports trail.
- Install benches.
- Purchase of trail maintenance equipment including ATV, trailers and accessories.
- Surface trail with gravel.
- Install gates as necessary to prevent access of motorized vehicles.
- Purchase additional lands and easements as necessary to provide access to park, extend park and establish trail heads.
- Provide signage as necessary.
- Prepare & publish maps and brochures of park.
- Purchase of snowmobile and cross-country skiing trail grooming equipment.
- Bridge ravines and streams as necessary.

JACKIE'S FIELD

Existing Facilities:

- Playground set
- Benches
- Sandlot ball field
- Picnic tables
- Gravel parking lot

Recommended Improvements:

- Construct covered picnic shelter.
- ADA compliant pathways throughout park.
- New backstop and fencing at ball field.
- Construction of soccer field.
- Extend utility lines to park.
- Informational signage.
- Install benches and picnic tables.
- Construction of restrooms.
- Pave parking lot
- Landscaping and tree planting.
- Improved storm water handling.

EAST SIDE TENNIS COURTS

Existing Facilities:

- Tennis courts
- Benches
- Fencing
- ½ court basketball court
- Tennis backboard

Recommended Improvements:

- Resurface tennis courts.
- Install drinking fountain.
- Expand basketball court to full court.
- Fence basketball court.
- Provide ADA compliant paved pathways.
- Install benches and picnic tables.
- Paint mural on tennis backboard.
- Construct maintenance building.
- Renovate tennis court lighting.
- Landscaping & tree planting.
- Improve signage.
- Purchase additional lands.

SMALL TRIANGLE

Existing Facilities:

- Flower gardens
- Benches

Recommended Improvements:

- Renovate flower gardens.
- Install benches.
- Landscaping and tree planting.
- Construct sculpture.
- Construct walkways and plaza.
- Install drinking fountain.

LEGION PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Veteran's Memorial
- Flag poles
- Flower gardens
- Pathways
- Benches

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare park development plan.
- Extend utilities to park.
- Replace pathways with ADA compliant walkways.
- Install drinking water fountain.
- Renovate and expand flower gardens.
- Install benches.
- Renovate veteran's memorial.
- Upgrade electrical service to park.
- Construct fountain.
- Construct fountain plaza.
- Construct sculpture.
- Landscaping and tree planting.
- Install picnic tables.
- Install park lighting.

CITY HALL PLAZA

Existing Facilities:

- Fountain
- Lighting
- Walkways
- Flag poles
- Plaza
- Flower gardens
- Benches

Recommended Improvements:

- Renovation of fountain electrical controls
- Replacement of plaza lights
- Replacement of plaza walkways
- Benches
- Landscaping
- Renovation of flower gardens

WIKDAL PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Benches
- Lighting
- Picnic tables
- Flower gardens

Recommended Improvements:

- Prepare park development plan.
- Renovate flower gardens.
- Renovate outdoor lighting and upgrade electrical capability for festivals.
- Construct gazebo or band stage.
- Construct restrooms.
- Construct ADA compliant pathways and walkways.
- Install drinking fountain.
- Place benches and picnic tables.

HILLSIDE PARK

Existing Facilities:

- Playground
- ½ court basketball court
- Benches & picnic tables
- Tennis courts
- Sand lot ball diamond
- Tennis backstop

Recommended Improvements:

- Resurface tennis courts.
- Renovate and expand playground.
- Extend utilities to site.
- Construct covered picnic shelter.
- Landscaping and tree planting.
- Construct full basketball court.
- Construct ADA complaint pathways.
- Renovate tennis court lighting.
- Fence sand lot ball diamond.
- Construct ADA compliant restrooms.
- Install benches and picnic tables.
- Construct parking lot.
- Install signage, as necessary.

THOMPSON CREEK PARKWAY

Existing Facilities:

- None

Recommended Improvements:

- Purchase lands along Thompson Creek for park.
- Prepare park development plan.
- Construct access roads to park site.
- Extend utilities to access points.
- Construct hiking and cross-country ski trails.
- Landscaping & tree planting.
- Erosion control along stream banks.
- Construct picnic pavilion.
- Construct trail shelters.
- Construct parking lots at access points.
- Construct ADA compliant restrooms.
- Construct bridges across Thompson Creek as necessary.
- Install additional signage.
- Construct boardwalks across wetlands.

City of Bayfield
Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814

RESOLUTION #

Adopting the City of Bayfield
Outdoor Recreation Plan

WHEREAS: the City of Bayfield wishes to provide quality park facilities and a variety of recreational opportunities and experiences to meet the needs of the community's residents and increasing tourist population.

WHEREAS: the City of Bayfield has developed this Outdoor Recreation Plan to guide management and improvement of parks, trails, and open spaces for recreational purposes.

WHEREAS: the City of Bayfield has developed this Outdoor Recreation Plan in order to be eligible for Wisconsin DNR and other funding during a five year period between 2021 - 2026.

WHEREAS: the City of Bayfield Parks and Recreation Committee meets with Bayfield School representatives to consolidate a cooperative plan that reflects the district's; needs for outdoor recreation and environmental development on an ongoing basis.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Parks and Recreational Committee is hereby adopting the proposed objectives for our city's parks and recreational areas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution adopting the Outdoor Recreational Plan for the City of Bayfield is recognized and approved by the City Council on the motion of _____ seconded by _____

Mayor

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2021..

City of Bayfield
Bayfield, Wisconsin 54814

Outdoor Recreation Plan

2021 - 2026

Prepared & Approved by the City of Bayfield Parks & Recreation Committee
P.O. Box 1170
Bayfield, WI 54814
715-779-5712

Parks & Recreation Committee Members

Skye Bingham

Matt Carrier

Diane Fizell

Kate Kitchell

Keith Ray

Becky Zelent - **Recreation and Fitness Resources Liaison**

City Staff:

John Fangman – Chief of Police

Billie Hoopman – City Clerk

Dionne Johnston – City Treasurer

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I. INTRODUCTION

Nestled on the shore of Lake Superior, the City of Bayfield is blessed with a collection of outstanding public parks, trails and open spaces that enable residents and visitors to enjoy our beautiful natural setting and rich history. These public places are community assets that provide special experiences and add value to our tourist and residential economy. To ensure that these assets receive the attention and support they deserve, this Outdoor Recreation Plan (ORP) has been developed to guide management and improvement for the next five years. Having a plan enables the City to set priorities as well as pursue additional resources such as grant funding, donations, and volunteer assistance from outside entities.

The Plan discusses existing parks and priorities, proposed additional parks, implementation strategies, and the budget/resources needed for implementation. The Plan also supports the City's recently adopted Health in All Policies Resolution #573:

“Resolving it shall be the policy of the City of Bayfield to apply a Health in All Policies approach to its own operations and decision-making, including policy development and implementation, budgeting, and delivery of services.”

As a general practice, priority is first placed on maintaining existing parks and facilities. Each spring requires clean-up and summer preparations, most of which is done by the Public Works crew plus assistance from volunteers. Proposed improvements and expansion of City parks and facilities are listed in relative priority order within each park section. These proposals would occur as additional funding, volunteer labor, and other resources become available. Maintenance, improvements, and expansion should consider the following:

- Protecting slopes, fragile soils, wooded areas, and changing climate conditions;
- Incorporating “green” standards to facilities and operations, for example: water and energy conservation, alternative energy, green infrastructure, waste minimization, and recycled/environmentally-friendly materials;
- Enhancing accessibility for senior citizens as well as people with disabilities;
- Plan and implement with climate and coastal resilience in mind;
- Support the Comp. Plan and community interest in urban agriculture and community gardens, including possible addition of such on City park lands.
- Incorporate ADA accessibility where appropriate and feasible..

This Outdoor Recreation Plan was developed based upon revision of the previous plan dated 2015 – 2019. This revision has incorporated actions identified in the City's 2019 Comprehensive Plan (Comp. Plan) as well as relevant actions from the Waterfront Plan (2003). The draft ORP revision was prepared by the City Parks and Recreation Committee with input from City staff. The draft was made available to the City Plan Commission and for public review in February and March of 2021. Based upon feedback, the Committee finalized the plan and recommended it to the City Council for adoption. This Plan is reviewed annually to provide input into the budget process and to develop an annual work plan.

II. EXISTING CITY PARKS AND FACILITIES

1. BIG RAVINE PRESERVE (132 acres +/-) (includes Gil Larsen Nature Trail)

This is the City's largest park, providing access to remarkable open space and recreational opportunities within the City limits. In 1942, a summer rainstorm caused two of Bayfield's larger ravines to flood the downtown area causing extensive property damage. The City of Bayfield subsequently purchased 120 acres which includes much

of the Big Ravine in order to protect its watershed. The City also owns approximately 12+ acres along the lower end of the Ravine, both in the bottom and on the east and west benches above the Ravine, thereby enabling access to the Ravine on the east and west sides.

The soils in this area are extremely fragile, and a 1997 report by the local USDA soil conservationist recommended that the land be utilized for recreation and forestry so that it can continue to provide flood control for the city below. This report also recommended acquisition of the 40-acres on the Ravine's west side to extend protection of the ravine from development upstream. Since then, these 40 acres on the west as well as another 40 acres adjacent to Meyers-Olson Rd. on the north end were acquired and placed in public ownership of the Town of Bayfield. They are permanently protected by conservation easements held by the Landmark Conservancy. A plan was developed in 2015 by the Conservancy to provide guidance for recreational use and conservation of these parcels.



The Big Ravine Preserve includes the Gil Larsen Nature Trail where the community, tourists and the school all make good use of the large ravine that opens onto Washington Avenue at the upper end of Broad Street. Years ago this unique ecosystem was developed into a nature trail and outdoor laboratory for the school and its use continues to increase. The trail ends approximately .5 miles up the Ravine. The boardwalks, benches, scenic overlooks and rest areas were constructed in 1984 by the WCC. The Gil Larsen Nature Trail is open and accommodating to most but is not accessible to people with physical limitations due to the creek crossings and rough terrain. In 2020 - 2021, several improvements were implemented at the trailhead, including new steps, improved path and signage, additional interpretive signage, a native pollinator plant garden, and a bench. The view of the historic Iron Bridge is an important feature that was cleared in 2020 and should be maintained.

Along the west side of the ravine, a system of trails was established for hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, and a soccer field (see below) was established in 1999. These trails are primarily accessed from the West Rim Trailhead by the baseball field behind the school, the Hilltop Trailhead by the soccer field, and Martin Rd. in the Town.

Along the east side of the ravine, there is a trail which historically provided snowmobile use connecting the City of Bayfield with a larger county-wide trail system. However, a private landowner, Old Orchard Meadows, closed their property to motorized use, thereby blocking snowmobile travel along this trail. Now called the East Rim Trail, it provides non-motorized opportunities year-round, with permission granted by Old Orchard Meadows, the Finn family, and the Erickson family for a public trail. In 2020, a parking area was constructed at the north end of the East Rim Trail on Meyers-Olson

Rd. and the trail was re-routed and improved to address very wet sections that had been historically difficult to travel in the winter and spring. This made the trail significantly more accessible.

This Big Ravine Preserve has been used for recreation purposes for many years, and the results of the 2001 Bayfield Community Survey indicated that people strongly support this continued use of the land. In 2003 a committee commissioned by the City produced “The 120-acre management plan” that included these key recommendations for trail expansion, land conservation, and improved access:

1. Conservation values should be the guiding principles when making decisions that affect this property.
2. Recreational uses should be the primary focus of development.
3. The West side of the Ravine should be reserved for silent sports. The existing trails should be connected to the nature trail (Gil Larsen) in the bottom and to the trails on the East side, if possible. *(Note: These connections were completed in 2020-2021.)* The East side should preserve the snowmobile trail and develop a network of trails for hiking, snowshoeing, skiing to those comparable across the Ravine, and look for ways to connect those trails. *(Note: As long as private landowners prohibit snowmobile use, this historic use will not be possible. Trail connections and loops were added in 2020.)*
4. The Regional Context of this land should always be kept in mind. Planning in and around the area should be done in cooperation with the Town and County of Bayfield; trails should be connected with existing larger systems in the area and public access should be provided from a number of locations. *(Note: This has been embraced by the Bayfield Area Trails Committee and is addressed under the “Trails” section of this plan.)*

In 2020 - 2021, with support from outside funding from several sources, the City Parks and Recreation Committee constructed the recommended trail connections between the Gil Larsen Trail in the bottom and the East and West side trails, thereby substantially expanding trail opportunities for the community and visitors (see attached map). These included the Iron Bridge connector, Sweeny Switchback, Pine Bluff, and Hemlock Heights. New public information and signage installed at trailheads and along the trails included new kiosks at Hilltop and West Rim trailheads, and maps and directional signs at trail intersections. Most of this was accomplished by community volunteers led by a professional trail building contractor. This community effort renewed interest in the Big Ravine trails as well as the broader Bayfield Area Trails network vision.

Maintenance:

- Maintain existing trails and signage.
- Gil Larsen Nature Trail: repair and maintain the existing amenities (walkways, signs, benches, overlooks). Priority should be placed on reconstructing the uppermost section of boardwalk above the waterfall, including a railing. Manage use to protect the slopes from trampling and erosion.
- Maintain the viewshed/corridor of the historic Iron Bridge from the Gil Larsen Trailhead and Washington Ave.
- Clean up and dispose of scrap metal pile at Sweeny Ave. maintenance area.

Proposed Improvements:

- Consider possible additions to the trail network and signage, such as:
 - Further extend the Gil Larsen Trail up the bottom.
 - Add loops on the east and west sides.
- Rehabilitate areas damaged by human activity, including the hillside below the school and other areas identified in the contracted Big Ravine Erosion Control and Restoration Plan.

- Work with the Town on a coordinated plan that addresses trails, public access, land conservation through easements and acquisition, public information, invasive species control, and watershed protection.
- Per the Comp. Plan Action, establish conservation easements on City Lands in the Big Ravine and other lands zoned as Conservancy (W-1) lands.
- Where the trails cross private property, secure permanent access via trail easements and/or land acquisition.
- Outdoor classroom and environmental education facilities.

2. **COOPER HILL PARK (.01 acres):** This is a small neighborhood park located at the corner of South Seventh Street and Manypenny Avenue. This park was established due to the water corridor running underneath this location. In 2008 the park was re-built, once again following the design and oversight of Learning Structures. It incorporates unique designs which portray the City's Train History. It provides a playground area for tots and for older children, and also a small stage for neighborhood plays. Consideration was given to installing a gate to contain small children, but pinching concerns precluded this action.



Maintenance:

- Maintain the proper amounts of absorbing material on the ground surface, periodically check and provide maintenance of fencing, playground equipment, sand.
- Weed control is a challenge that should be addressed.

Proposed Improvements:

- Plantings to improve the overall aesthetic appearance of the park could possibly be added and maintained by neighborhood volunteers.
- Develop an equipment replacement plan, including obtaining supplemental funding.

3. **DALRYMPLE CAMPGROUND (14.54 acres):** This campground is located 1/4 mile north of the City of Bayfield on the slope along Lake Superior's shoreline. Encompassing the second largest City park, it is a heavily wooded area, with very deep ravines, wonderful views of the Apostle Islands, and a primitive trail that provides access to the water. The park has a rustic appearance and caters to tenting and small camper users, rather than to people using very large RVs. There are 30 campsites, with electricity to 70% of the sites. Because there are no showers available, Recreation and Fitness Resources (RFR) offers showers for a nominal fee. This highly popular campground generates substantial fees, adding income to the City's general fund (over \$70,000 in 2020). Therefore, maintaining, improving and expanding the campground is a top priority. Because of the rough terrain, installing improvements is challenging and often expensive. In the spring of 2009, the two restrooms' pit toilets were replaced with new ADA compliant concrete structures and vault systems. The access road is deteriorating with stormwater runoff contributing to its decline.

Maintenance:

- Maintain fencing, picnic tables, signage, trails, and other amenities; control encroaching vegetation.

- Complete electrical upgrades/underground installation.
- Maintain and upgrade restrooms to contemporary environmental standards (e.g. composting).

Proposed Improvements:

- Add more sites (with picnic tables, fire rings, etc.).
- Improve/renovate the existing road, including managing runoff.
- Walking trail to Bayfield with bridges, lake access opportunities
- Monitor shoreline and stabilize, if possible.
- Add a storage structure/area for supplies.
- Consider connecting to the city sewer system.
- Consider upgrading restroom and shower facilities. This could potentially include indoor or outdoor showers, flush toilets, and changing rooms utilizing solar energy.



4. **EAST DOCK PARK** (.03 acres): This park is located at the corner of First Street and Wilson Avenue near the Coast Guard station. It is on the shore of Lake Superior and offers a picnic area with a covered shelter, a number of tables and park benches. It has a lot of open space, with a volleyball court, a large playground area. In 2019 new restrooms with “green” utilities were constructed. Many special events are held here, and it is used by residents and tourists alike. There is always a slight breeze coming off

the Lake which makes this park a popular place during the hot summer months. In 2003, community volunteers, under the supervision and direction of Learning Structures renovated this playground into a one-of-a-kind park. The park provides play zones for different ages and hosts historic structures like the “Ferry” and “Sea Monster”. Maintenance of these new structures and continually providing the proper absorption material beneath are priorities. In association with the harbor improvement project of 2020 - 2022, actions were implemented to protect the shoreline from high lake levels.



Maintenance:

- Maintain all facilities, including playground equipment, benches, picnic tables, shelter, and grills.

Proposed Improvements:

- Plant trees and shrubs, especially shade trees near the playground area.
- Replace playground equipment, taking a phased approach as needed.
- Windbreaks near the existing picnic shelter.
- Develop an equipment replacement plan, including obtaining supplemental funding.

5. **FISHING PIER:** In 1998 a public fishing pier was built adjacent to the East Dock Park. Maintenance of this pier falls under the purview of the Harbor Commission. It provides handicap access from designated parking sites nearby. The fishing pier consists of a wood deck over rock filled wood cribs. Along the shoreline side of the pier is ample seating, on the lake side there is space for at least 20 anglers along the railing, with openings for disabled anglers. The pier, its walkway and the parking area are lit for security and safety by a period lamppost.
6. **HALVOR REITEN PARK (BROAD STREET BEACH, DOCK L) (1 acre):** This beach-oriented park is located at the south end of Broad Street in an old boat-building and lumber-milling area of the shoreline. It consists of a swimming beach area, benches, picnic shelter, and an open grassy area. A storage building near the park entrance provides a storage area for equipment, but is slated to be moved. This also once served as a warming shed for an ice skating rink. The skating rink was abandoned due to the relatively low use levels and the cost and maintenance challenges. In 2006, the City of Bayfield obtained ownership of the property commonly known as “Dock L”. The property was cleared of the hazardous debris, the dock was rebuilt, benches were installed and a walkway through the park was installed. In 2014 a new stormwater retention system was constructed, including a large rain garden and beach nourishment, grading and shaping of additional parking to the beach. A wooden dock that had been installed along the edge of the old dock/land spit was destroyed by high water and storms in 2018. In 2019, large rip rap rock was installed to protect this old dock/land spit to allow for continued foot access to the dock at the end. In the past a lifeguard was onsite during busy times; but due to funding limitations, there is no lifeguard and swimming occurs “at your own risk.” The water quality is monitored for bacteria in the summer by the County for public health purposes.



Maintenance:

- Maintain all facilities, including repair/replacement of the benches;
- Repair the dock;
- Paint the historic boat at the park entrance;

Proposed Improvements:

- Post sign prohibiting fires;
- Install concrete pad under picnic shelter;
- Install sustainable walkway/boardwalk on top of land spit to the dock at the end;
- Maintain and/or reconstruct the stormwater retention system/green infrastructure;
- Implement low-maintenance plantings to enhance aesthetics and resilience;
- If any adjacent shoreline property became available the City should consider obtaining in an effort to increase the beach and provide more public access to Lake Superior.

7. **JAKE'S ISLAND VIEW PARK** (.05 acres): This is a small triangle park located on the extreme east end of Manypenny Avenue. It overlooks Lake Superior and the Bayfield Marina, and is visible from both the Lake and the downtown district. The small park contains a bike rack, benches, and a variety of plants and shrubs. The pathway that goes through the park connects with the lakefront path along the harbor. A portion of this pathway is allowed under an agreement with the condominium association.

Maintenance:

- Maintain and replace plantings as needed (e.g. trees, shrubs and flowers).

Proposed Improvements:

- Per the Waterfront Plan, add a "platform" overlooking the harbor.
- Designate handicap parking Space for access to waterfront walk.

8. **KORSEBERG PARK** (.01 acres): This is a very small but prominent area on the north side of Highway 13 (at the sharp bend in the road) when entering the city from the south. It is named for Alfred Korseberg who once lived at this location. The park overlooks Lake Superior, with spectacular views of Madeline Island and Long Island. The park is owned by Bayfield County, but maintained by the City of Bayfield.

Maintenance:

- Update benches

Proposed Improvements:

- Install a sign with the name to signify this as a public park;
- The City will continue to try to formally acquire this land from Bayfield County.

9. **MEMORIAL PARK and MEMORIAL PARK ANNEX** (.02 acres): The Memorial Park Annex is a small .02 acre park is a "scenic overlook" within the city. This area is used by thousands of residents and tourists during the summer months. It is located along the pathway that follows the lakefront from the Bayfield Pavilion to the East Dock Park and from its benches there are wonderful views of Madeline Island, the Bayfield marina and harbor. The trees, plantings, park benches and old street lights make this park unique. This annex is adjacent to Memorial Park, which is owned by the Bayfield Civic League. The City mows, maintains, and provides water and sewer for Memorial Park.

Maintenance:

- Maintain and improve plantings such as trees and shrubs.

Proposed Improvements:

- Rehabilitate the city owned paved walking path to improve the slope by the gazebo, level the surface, and widen sections where needed. In conjunction, consider adding a platform at Jake's park and establishing handicap access at the First St. access.
- The City should pursue right of first refusal for ownership of Memorial Park should the Civic League ever disband or consider selling this irreplaceable park.
- New benches.



- 10. TURNING POINT FOUNTAIN PARK:** In 2003 the City approved the Waterfront Plan to maintain the community's maritime historical character, while allowing for creative development plans, including parks. In the past, the City was known as the "Fountain City", and this committee supported that idea of having fountains in parks. This plan envisioned re-developing the "Turning Point" element at First Street and Wilson Avenue into a new park area that would include constructing a portion of the missing Waterfront Trail to allow users to traverse alongside of Lake Superior, constructing a new fully ADA compliant restroom facility which replaced old and outdated restrooms, and creating a new park area featuring a fountain donated by Mary Rice. The 1989 fountain designed by Ray Jacobson had previously been at the Clubhouse on Madeline Island became the focal point of Turning Point Fountain Park.



With funding from Wisconsin Coastal Management, Department of Natural Resources, LRIP, Outdoor Recreation Grant, Xcel, taxpayers, and dedication from committee volunteers, the Turning Point Project was completed in 2018. The park features a light up fountain, the first solar powered bench in the City, plantings, and interpretive signs to introduce visitors to Bayfield's past.

Maintenance:

- Maintain the fountain and surrounding grounds (perhaps with volunteers).

Proposed Improvements:

- Install more benches, possibly in memoriam.

11. **WASHINGTON AVENUE LAKE ACCESS:** At the easternmost end of Washington Ave., there is public lakeshore access where people can walk, swim, launch non-motorized watercraft (e.g. kayaks, paddle boards), and enjoy the Lake. It is very popular, especially for people who are waiting to take the ferry boat to Madeline Island or in conjunction with a walk around the City. Land ownership here is complex (see map). The City owns an 80 foot right of way down to the water at the end of Washington Ave.; Madeline Island Ferry Lines (MIFL) owns the property to the north and down to the water's edge; and the City owns the land north of the MIFL property. This northernmost property is annually leased to the kayak outfitting business (Trek and Trail) for purposes of kayak launching and training. The ordinary high-water mark, not the waters edge, establishes the geographical boundary of the public trust. The ordinary high-water mark is the point on the bank or shore where the water, by its presence, wave action or flow, leaves a distinct mark on the shore or bank that is indicated by erosion, destruction of vegetation, changes from aquatic to terrestrial vegetation, or other characteristics.

The City's land has not historically been managed as a swimming beach due to occasional conflicts with watercraft, including those launched by the outfitters. The water quality is monitored for bacteria in the summer by the County for public health purposes. Swimming is encouraged/redirected to Halvor-Reiten Park. There is one bench beneath a large willow tree. Regular clean-up of trash and debris is needed for safety and aesthetic purposes. While the Public Works crew carries out some of this work, it can be supplemented by the PRC member who has adopted the site along with volunteer clean-up days.



Associated with this public recreation use area are restrooms on Front Street. This is one of the three restrooms in the City of Bayfield. It is located at Front Street and Washington Avenue near the ferry dock. The others are at East Dock Park and the Blackhawk boat ramp (under purview of the Harbor Commission). All are heavily used because Bayfield is a tourist community. They are ADA compliant.

Maintenance:

- Continue to allow and support use of east of Washington Avenue for Ice Road Access.
- Clean debris from sand and add sand as needed.
- Maintain and replace old fixtures in the restrooms.
- Continue efforts to incorporate “green” standards into the restrooms (water conservation, reduce electrical needs, reduce paper usage, etc.).

Proposed Improvements: Most of these recommended improvements are excerpted from the 2003 Waterfront Plan:

- Continue to allow mixed usage, including swimming.
- Install signage that indicates allowed uses at the beach: swimming (at your own risk – no lifeguard), kayak staging and launching area, small non-motorized craft allowed. Please be respectful to all users.
- Add information about the historic “Ferry District.”
- Clarify boundary lines for public access, including Pine St. right-of-way
- Consider access to city owned land on both sides of the sluiceway, including the option of erecting a bridge over the sluice way, north of public restrooms on Washington Avenue.
- Develop land north of sluice way into usable park land.
- Create a defined walking area that makes a connection to the waterfront walking corridor (west of sand, in berm area if possible).
- Investigate the possibility of obtaining more land for parking while maintaining a quality lakeshore.
- Don’t renew or sign new contracts with private businesses for use of beach property.
- All improvements should take into consideration ADA accessibility.

12. **WATERFRONT WALKING CORRIDOR:** Bayfield is a very interesting city. Although it is small, consisting of only one square mile, it has a quaint fishing village atmosphere with pleasant parks, pathways along Lake Superior, and many historical buildings. Its hillsides offer spectacular views of the Lake and the Apostle Islands. In 2015, in accordance with the approved City’s Waterfront Plan, a waterfront walking corridor with interpretive signage was developed, linking many special "points of interest" in our historic community. These include Halvor Reiten Park, Working Waterfront, Turning Point Fountain, East Dock Park, Jake’s Island View Park, Memorial Park Annex, Memorial Park, the Pavilion, Ferry District, and Washington Ave. Lake Access. It starts at the head of the Brownstone Trail at 3rd St and Wilson Ave heading east along the shore then north to Front St and Washington Ave.

Proposed Improvements:

- Additional rest/seating areas
- Improve walking surfaces (see Memorial Park Annex).
- Connect to other trails (see Trails Network section), including wayfinding signage.
- Add a waterfront look-out area on 2nd Street.
- Per the Comp. Plan, establish a walkway on the north half of Front Street between Rittenhouse and Washington; adjoining the ferry parking lot. This could possibly be accomplished by moving parking to the west side of Front

St. and establishing a sidewalk along the east side. The first step would be to design the re-route followed by a second step of construction.

III. PARKS NOT MANAGED BY THE CITY

1. **FOUNTAIN PARK:** This park is located at the south “entrance” to the City along state Highway 13. It includes a large “BAYFIELD” sign with the date of the City’s establishment of 1883, a large fountain, flower gardens, and paved pathways around the perimeter. It is owned and maintained by the Bayfield Heritage Association.
2. **HILLSIDE PARK:** This park is located northwest of the Bayfield School and includes three separate areas: a ballpark, parking lot and community garden all at different levels on the hillside. It is maintained by the school under a lease with the City. The ballpark occupies the top of the hill and is probably one of the most scenic in all of northern Wisconsin. While attending a game one can view Lake Superior, Madeline Island, Long Island, Chequamegon Bay and Bayfield itself. It is used by both the community and school. Facilities include bleachers and dugouts, steps to the parking area, and a handicap accessible walkway along the first base side. The entire field is surrounded by a four-foot high chain link fence. A restroom building is located down the hill from the bleachers. This facility was built by the school and is maintained by the school (except for turning the water service on in the spring and off in the fall, which is done by the City).

The parking lot is located just below the ballpark. This facility is used by both the community and the school. It is large enough to park about 25 cars, and has two basketball hoops, one at each end of the lot. In the future, the school will be making more use of the parking lot during the academic year. East of the parking lot is an educational area which the school utilizes as a school community garden and recently installed a High Tunnel greenhouse.

Proposed Improvements:

- Consider this location for a community garden if the opportunity becomes available.

3. **SKATEBOARD PARK:** The Bayfield School District created a skateboard park next to the Bayfield Area Recreation Center at 140 South Broad Street. This area provides a safe area for skateboarding activities. This is maintained primarily by volunteers with Recreation and Fitness Resources at the Recreation Center. RFR carries the insurance which is paid for through donations. Should the Center need expanding, this skateboard park may need to be moved elsewhere.
4. **SOCCER FIELD:** In 1999, a group of citizens organized to build a youth soccer field on top of the old landfill site in the northwest corner of the city. This area is located at the end of Hilltop Road and is within the 120 acres of Big Ravine Preserve. Utilizing grants from Wisconsin DNR and a local bank, an area was leveled, planted in grass, and a large playing field created. The field has been utilized for soccer and other activities since the spring of 2000; it is maintained by the school under a lease agreement with the City. This location also serves as the Hilltop Trailhead to the west side of the Big Ravine Preserve.

Proposed Improvements:

- A parking area could be designated for events on the athletic fields and also provide remote visitor parking for downtown events.

- Hilltop Road, the access road needs to be widened and the surface needs to be improved.
- A running track might also be built around the perimeter of the soccer field.
- An additional practice field could be added.

5. **SOUTH PLAYGROUND** (.02 acres): This playground is owned and maintained by the Bayfield School District and is located just below the Bayfield School. It provides several large pieces of play equipment and is utilized mostly by the elementary school children.

IV. PROPOSED ADDITIONAL PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES: Due to the City's limited financial capacity, decisions to add facilities should be based upon thorough consideration of cost of development, capital investments and operations and maintenance. These costs should also be evaluated in the context of public and economic benefits to the community. For example, because playground equipment is particularly costly to purchase, install, and maintain, it will be essential to have a financial plan that is substantiated by community support.

1. **CATHOLIC HILL PARK:** There are no public parks or playgrounds located in this part of the city which is bounded by Broad Street and Wing Avenue (Highway 13) between Washington Avenue and North Limits Road. Some discussion about developing one has begun. The goal would be to provide a safe setting with a combined park and playground, so that children living here would not have to travel such long distances to reach other city facilities. Because of the lack of city-owned property here, the first step would be to locate and purchase a suitable area to develop. Such neighborhood parks (such as our Cooper Hill Park), need not be very large, but still are used often and enjoyed by people living near them.
2. **OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION LANDS:** There may be benefits and needs for designating and/or acquiring more land under City ownership for conservation and open space for the purposes of environmental conservation/protection, recreational use, and public access. This could include designating them W-1 Conservancy District lands as well as establishing conservation easements on these lands. For example, beginning in 1996, several homes were built where 10th Street was extended north to Sweeny Avenue, and a sewer main installed. The city's Comprehensive Plan could designate the land north of the municipal wellhead as a conservancy area because it includes a steep ravine which was identified in the 1997 soil report as an area of fragile soils which should be kept in its natural state for reasons of flood control. Other such situations may arise as development expands and public interest in recreational use grows. These situations will be considered by the PRC and addressed through a public process under the purview of the Plan Commission and City Council.
3. **PICKLEBALL COURTS:** Some members of the community have expressed interest in installing pickleball courts. No location has been identified yet. This could be pursued by Recreation and Fitness Resources as well.
4. **PUBLIC INFORMATION AND WAYFINDING:** Per the Comp. Plan, implement a wayfinding system to facilitate public information and access to parks, trails (trailheads), and the lake. This may be primarily through online information with minimal on-the-ground signage. This could serve as the foundation for implementing a more comprehensive wayfinding system identified in the Comp. Plan. This would include a style manual for signs and maps, as well as location of a few select sign locations. Also,

include getting parks, trails, trailheads, and lake access on google maps so anyone can find and navigate to these features.

5. **SECOND DISTRICT PARK:** One of the goals of the Bayfield Parks and Recreation Department is to have a suitable park/playground in every city district. This proposed park/playground would be located north of Washington Avenue between 5th Street and 10th Street where the city expects more development in the coming years. This area consists of heavily wooded sites high-on-a-hillside (overlooking beautiful Lake Superior). There is, at present, no park or playground in this district.
6. **TRAILS NETWORK:** In accordance with the Comprehensive Plan, continue participation in the Bayfield Area Trails System (BATS) Committee to develop and implement a unified trails system among the City, Town, County, and Red Cliff. This would include identifying and prioritizing linkages between existing trails networks (e.g. Big Ravine to orchards, Fire Tower Hill, City to Dalrymple Campground), providing public information and access, and developing capacity to maintain trails.
 - Per the Waterfront Plan, develop a trail to connect Washington Ave. to Dalrymple Park along the lakefront.
 - Brownstone Trail: Per the Comp. Plan, work cooperatively with the Landmark Conservancy and the Town of Bayfield to restore the Brownstone Trail. This would include supporting the pursuit of funding and other resources.
 - Develop a master map and plan for trails within the City limits. This would help to fill in the BATs trails network plan.
 - Where the trails cross private property, secure permanent access via trail easements and/or land acquisition.
 - Establish a bike trail, with signage, where people can bicycle in and around the city with strategically placed bike racks.

IV. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION: The greatest challenge to implementing the plan is very limited budget and staff capacity to do anything beyond basic maintenance and clean-up of parks which is primarily done by the City's Public Works Department (PWD). The City's budget has not been able to keep pace with increasing demands and operating costs; this has impacted all City operations, including Parks. As a result, deferred maintenance needs, such as peeling paint, deteriorating fences and boardwalks, and encroaching vegetation, have accumulated over the years.

First, to facilitate effective use of limited City resources and to strive to address the most compelling needs, the Parks and Recreation Committee (PRC) will develop a prioritized budget for consideration by the City Council in the annual budget cycle in August/September. This will identify basic needs to be addressed via the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funds, plus priority unfunded needs. After budget approval, the PRC will develop an annual work plan to be carried out by PWD plus volunteers or other partners.

Beyond maximizing City budgets, implementation of this ORP will primarily rely upon marshalling additional financial resources and human capital through:

- Donations and grants;
- Human capital through volunteerism, internships, and scholarships;
- Leveraging partnerships with the Town of Bayfield, Red Cliff Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa, Bayfield School, Recreation and Fitness Resources, Bayfield Heritage Association, Northland College and others.

- Communication and outreach via websites, social media, and the Bayfield Chamber and Visitor Bureau Chamber Blast.

The PRC should spearhead efforts to expand City capacity. Through this annual process, the PRC will also identify priority improvements or expansions that could be addressed by outside sources. The PRC has demonstrated that such a model of volunteerism, outside funding, and expanded communication can be successful. For example, in the spring of 2019, the Parks and Recreation Committee (PRC) sponsored volunteer work days to address deferred maintenance issues and to assist with spreading wood chips at East Dock and Cooper Hill Parks. Then, in 2020, the Parks and Recreation Committee members each adopted one or more parks in order to monitor conditions, conduct simple clean-up and maintenance, and communicate larger needs to the PWD. Also, in 2020, significant trail construction and maintenance projects in the Big Ravine Park were accomplished thanks to grant funding combined with community volunteer interest.

Implementation Goals:

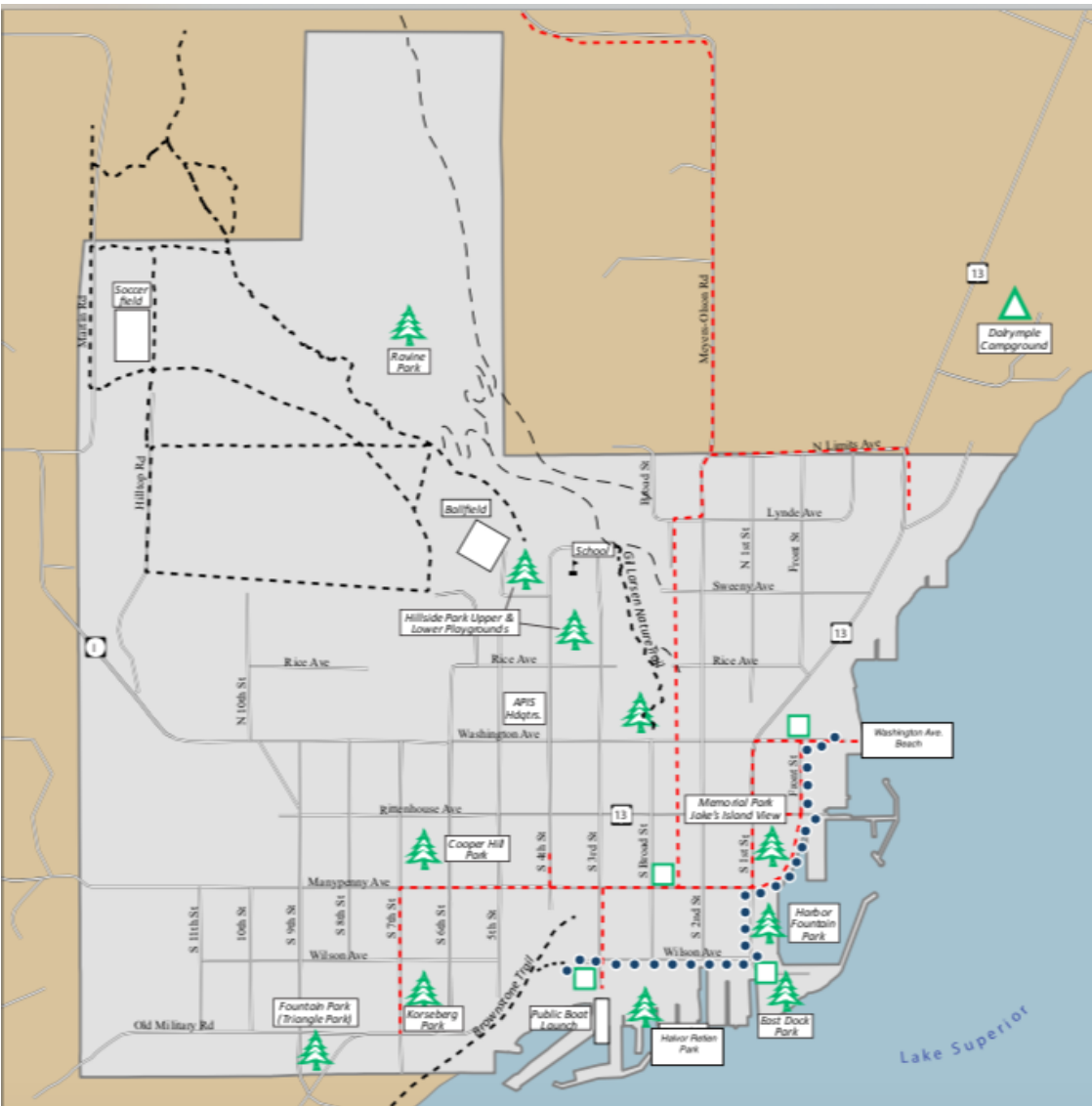
- Per the Comp. Plan, explore the potential to establish a seasonal staff and/or internship position(s) for parks and trails maintenance. Possibly fund this position through grants and/or fees in cooperation with BATS partners. By 2025, have at least one sustainably funded seasonal staff/intern position in place for parks and trails maintenance (this is from the Comp. Plan)
- Establish a standard volunteer program and process, including policies, procedures, roles and responsibilities, documentation, project plans, annual calendar, etc.
- Explore options and procedures for accepting donations for Parks and Recreation projects.

Annual Implementation Table: Following is an example table to be completed in the winter/spring of each year to guide park maintenance and improvements. One-year and five-year budgets will be developed in August/September in accordance with City standard operating practices.

Priority: (H,M,L)	Description	Resources Needed	Cost Budget	Completion Date
	<i>BIG RAVINE PRESERVE</i>			
	<i>COOPER HILL PARK</i>			
	<i>DALRYMPLE CAMPGROUND</i>			
	<i>EAST DOCK PARK</i>			
	<i>HALVOR REITEN PARK</i>			
	<i>KORSEBERG PARK</i>			
	<i>MEMORIAL PARK ANNEX</i>			
	<i>TURNING POINT FOUNTAIN PARK</i>			
	<i>WASHINGTON AVE. LAKE ACCESS (& FRONT ST. RESTROOMS)</i>			
	<i>WATERFRONT WALKING CORRIDOR (& JAKE'S PARK)</i>			
	<i>PROPOSED ADDITIONS</i>			

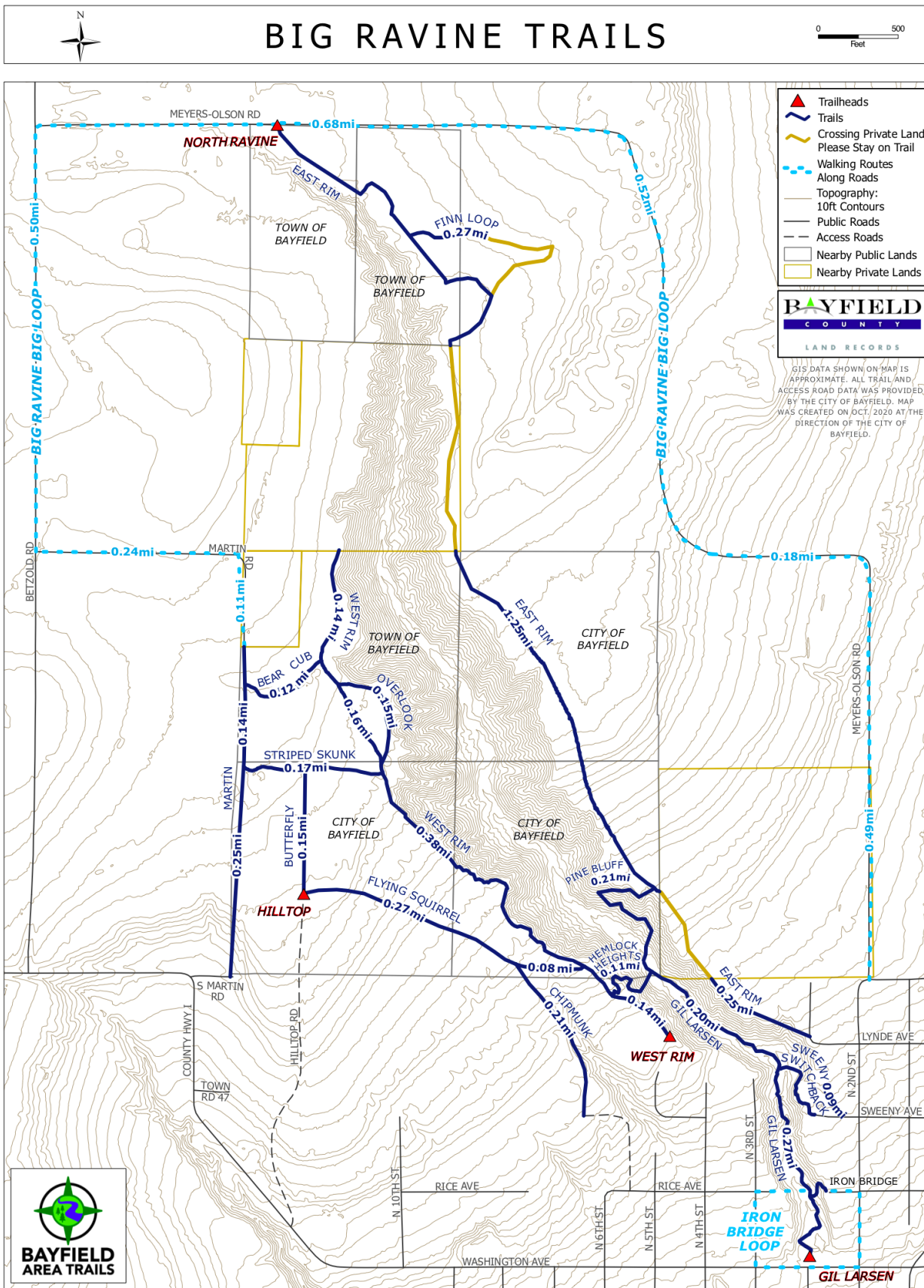
APPENDICES

I. PARK MAPS



City of Bayfield
Parks and Recreation Areas

- Public Park Area
- Campground
- Public Restrooms
- Snowmobile Trail
- Nature Trail
- Waterfront Walk
- City of Bayfield



II. OUTSIDE SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Funding Sources:

- Wisconsin Coastal Management Program
- Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation
- Department of Natural Resources
 - Recreational Trails Program
 - Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Programs
- Great Lakes Initiatives
- Bayfield Community Education Foundation

Human Capital:

- Community volunteers
- Master Gardeners (U.W. Extension)
- Scholarships
- Internships & projects via Northland College
- Wisconsin Industrial and Technical College

III. REFERENCES

- Waterfront Plan (2003)
- 120-Acre Plan (2003)
- County Outdoor Recreation Plan