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

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NOTICE OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, March 19, 2024

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

LOCATION: 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/87558306535?pwd=aWtaTHRGZ1JLendVUHU1QkdiMG9Odz09 or by calling 888-788-0099 (Toll-free) and entering Mtg ID: 875 5830 6535 and Passcode: 031924.

AGENDA:

- Call to Order/Roll Call
- Approval of the February 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes
- Updates from Public Works Department & City Administration
- Discussion & Action on creating Park Designated Fund Budget
- Discussion & Action on Updating the Lakeshore Parkway & Walking Trail Land Management 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.

February 20, 2024	**City of Washburn Parks Committee Meeting Minutes**
5:30 PM	City Hall
Members Present:	Jen Maziasz, Angel Croll, Susan Hall
Members Absent:	Jeremy Oswald, Erika Lang
Municipal Personnel Present:	Tony Janisch, Asst. City Administrator, Gerry Schuette, Director of Public Works

Call to Order/Roll Call
Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM; Three (3) of five (5) members present; quorum is recognized.

Approval of Parks Committee Meeting Minutes
Motion was made by Hall to approve Park Committee minutes of January 16, 2024, seconded by Croll; Minutes approved unanimously.

Updates from Public Works Department & City Administration
Public Works Director Schuette provided the following updates:
- Campgrounds are due to open April 15.
- Second artesian flowing well needs repairs at the outfall and along 8th Avenue ditch due to erosion.
- DNR ordered the City to manage overflow of the second artesian well due to invasive watercress.

Asst. Administrator Janisch provided the following updates:
- Council approved Omaha Street property as the development area for a Bike Park.
- Ice-skating rink has had a short and unpredictable season due to warm winter weather and is likely exacerbated by the dark surface of the rink; the hockey rink remains open.
- Direct Legislation Referendum FAQ for the Lakefront Property has been developed and will be posted for the public to read.
- Rough draft for North Coast Sailing Association lease agreement is complete; upon signing it will be in place for three years.
- Cooper Engineering has begun the permitting process for the campground expansion. The DNR Stormwater Permit is on hold due to the need for an archaeological survey requirement.
- Hillside Park tennis courts project is on pause.
- Bayfield Street project requires the removal of some trees along Highway 13. Those trees will be flagged and removed before construction.

Discussion & Update on Implementation and Updating the Lakeshore Parkway & Walking Trail Land Management Plan & WI Coastal Management Grant
- Maizais proposed to add an addendum to the current plan, noting goals that have been met; confirm if the management plan is correct as it relates to the DPW mowing maintenance schedule.
- No update for the grant

Discussion & Action on West End Playground Replacement
Deb Terry and Paige Terry of the Friends of the Thompson West End Playground spoke about the group's activity and plans for raising awareness and soliciting funds. This includes creating a Facebook page, solicitation for donations in the City's fourth-quarter utility bill; a fundraiser set for May 4th and seeking grants.

The Game Time company has a variety of playsystems available for purchase. The Friends identified the Fall Creek with Mound as the best choice because it's friendlier to younger children. Committee discussion affirmed the Friends choice of playsystem based on the audience and also because of the natural color scheme. The City has allocated $50,000 for the palyground project funded through the proposed borrowing. Motion made by Hall to recommend to City Council to approve the purchase the Fall Creek with Mound playsystem as supported by the Friends of Thompson West End Playground; second by Maziaz; approved unanimously.

Discussion and Action on West End Park Artesian Well.
The main artesian well at Thompson's West End Park has a punctured pipe creating the possibility of contamination. DPW Schuette will explore the construction of the well as it may need to be replaced, and if so must meet DNR flowing well standards. Discussion included: notifying the public of the project, the history of the well, and the differences in requirements to repair based on intended use/user (water bottle, RV holding tanks, etc.) of the artesian well.

Discussion & Action on creating Park Designated Fund Budget
Subgroup did not have preliminary information available for tonight's meeting. Schuette is requesting money from the Park Designated Fund to pay for the artesian well project. This fund can be used at any time with City Council approval as it is not part of the City's general budget. Discussion occurred about maintenance versus improvements. approximately $47,000 was deposited into the PDF account after the 2023 camping season.

Adjourned at 7:02 PM

Angel Croll
Secretary, Parks Committee

1

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To: Parks Committee

From: Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator

Re: Park Designated Fund

Date: December 12, 2023

The City Administrator has asked the Park Committee to develop a budget for the Park Designated Fund. This Fund has been around for as long as anyone can remember for the purpose of providing funding for improvements to city parks. On rare occasions, it has been used to pay for urgent maintenance needs at parks/campgrounds; but this is not the intended purpose.

The Park Designated Fund is funded through campground and pavilion usage. A portion of the daily campground site fee is deposited into this fund, currently $5 per night; and all of the pavilion rental fee is placed in here.

This Fund is also used as the depository for donations to special projects, like the Jackie's Field playground funding or the new ballfield and fencing at the Athletic Field. The Fund is also used for grant funded projects as match for projects or used to pay for contractor/services before grant reimbursements are received. An example of this would be the current project for coastal restoration engineering at Memorial Park.

At the meeting we will begin discussion on how to proceed with developing this budget.

2

2020

LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN:
WASHBURN LAKESHORE PARKWAY AND WALKING TRAIL

Written by Parks Committee

Adopted by Washburn City Council

3/9/2020

Contents

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 (*Valeriana officinalis*), non-native honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp*.), common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), and crown vetch (*Coronilla varia*), 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 (*Miscanthus spp.)*, 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 (*Lythrum salicaria*). 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

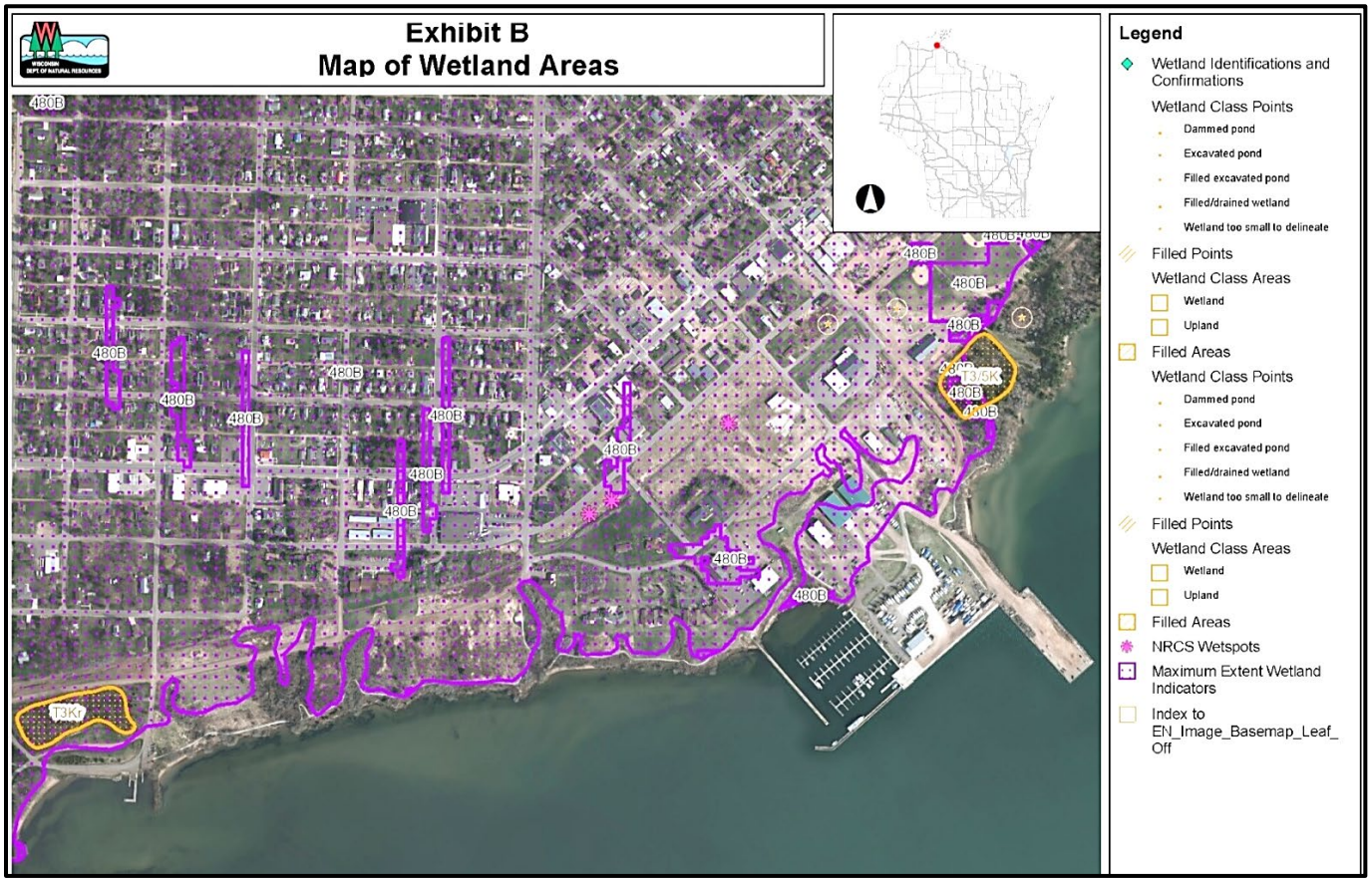
According to the Expansion of West End Park Report, the existing habitat within the parkway represents a unique opportunity to restore habitat to the Lake Superior coastline through careful planning and implementation of restoration activities. Restoration efforts should concentrate on:
1) Removing/controlling 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 (*Rhamnus cathartica*), non-native honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*), garden valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*), common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), and watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*). 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

	scrub habitat areas, and pollinator habitat areas which will provide habitat and build climate resiliency. 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.		Deer protection if needed	
Edible Plantings	Species such as raspberry, blueberry, blackberry, serviceberry, wild plum, highbush cranberry, elderberry, hazelnut, etc. Location: In areas easily accessible by the public.	Spring or Fall (species dependent)	Planting plan and design Shovels Deer protection if needed	
Maintenance of Restored Areas	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. Location: Recently restored areas, sensitive areas (Area 5 and Area 6), and as needed throughout natural area.	Spring/Summer		
Public Outreach & Education	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.	Anytime	Letters Meetings Phone Calls	
Implementing Green Infrastructure Projects	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. Location: Near the lakeshore, in other key locations	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

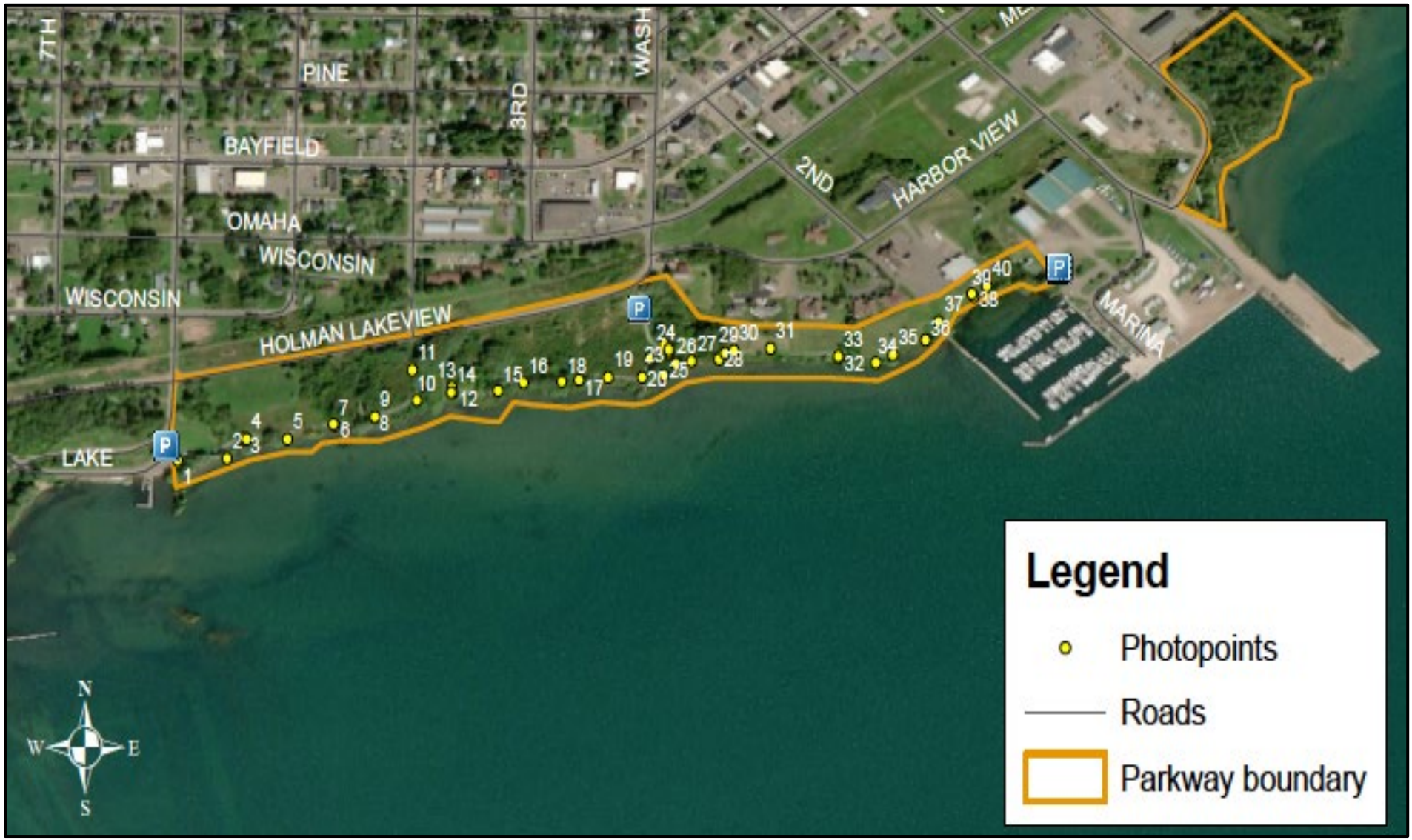


Photo #	Description	Longitude	Latitude	Compass Bearing (degrees)
1	Trail Entrance	-90.90237	46.6665	67
2	Interpretive Sign	-90.90159	46.6666	128
3	Interpretive Sign	-90.901316	46.6668	47
4	Culvert and Erosion	-90.90129	46.6668	129
5	Shoreline	-90.90065	46.6668	92
6	Shoreline near bridge	-90.8999	46.667	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:

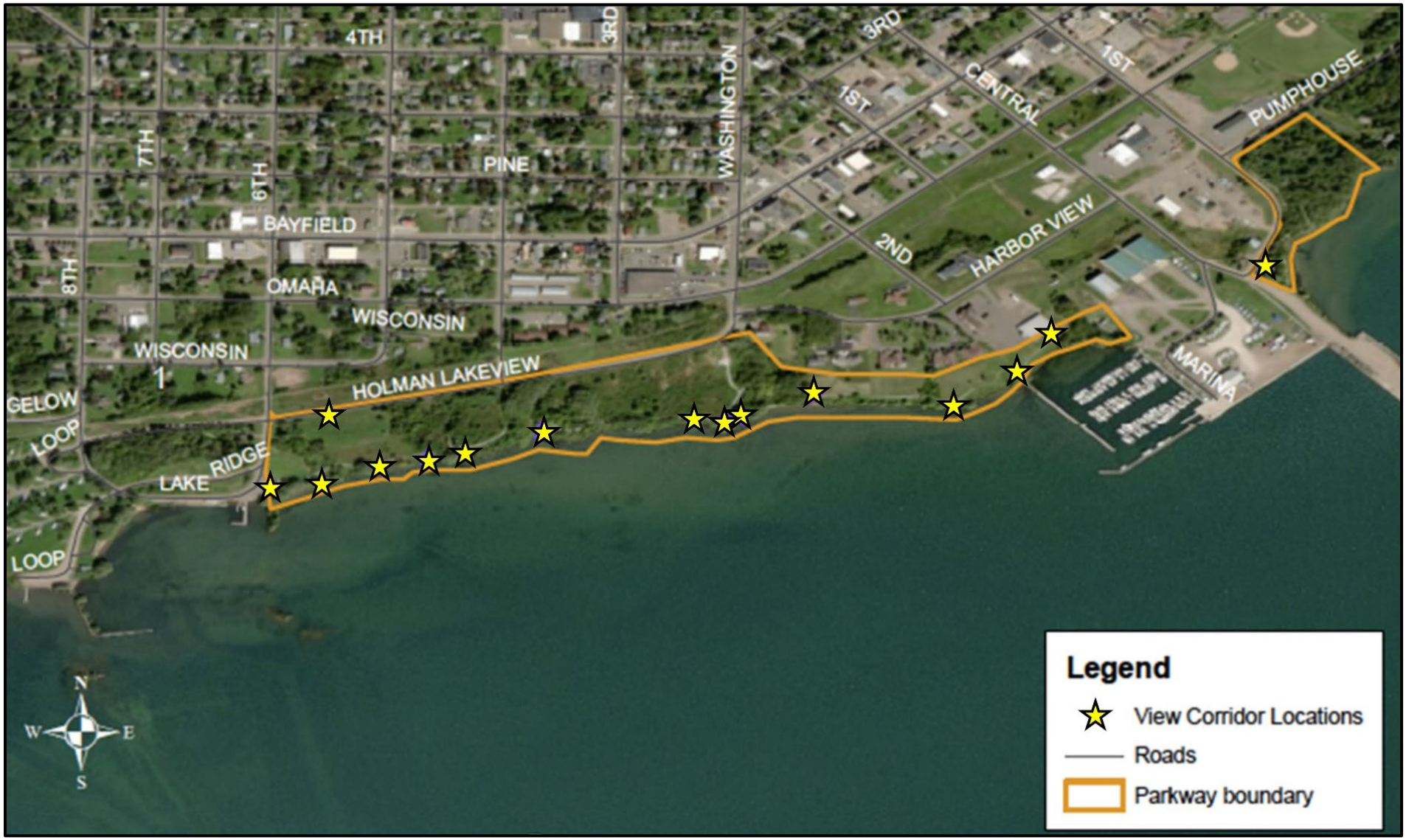
- Limiting cutting and trimming to retain low growth of plants. If vegetation is cut, it is recommended that it will not be cut below 2-3 feet in height. Limit root disturbance during corridor maintenance activities.
- Selectively limbing mature trees to allow for viewsheds below the tree canopy level 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

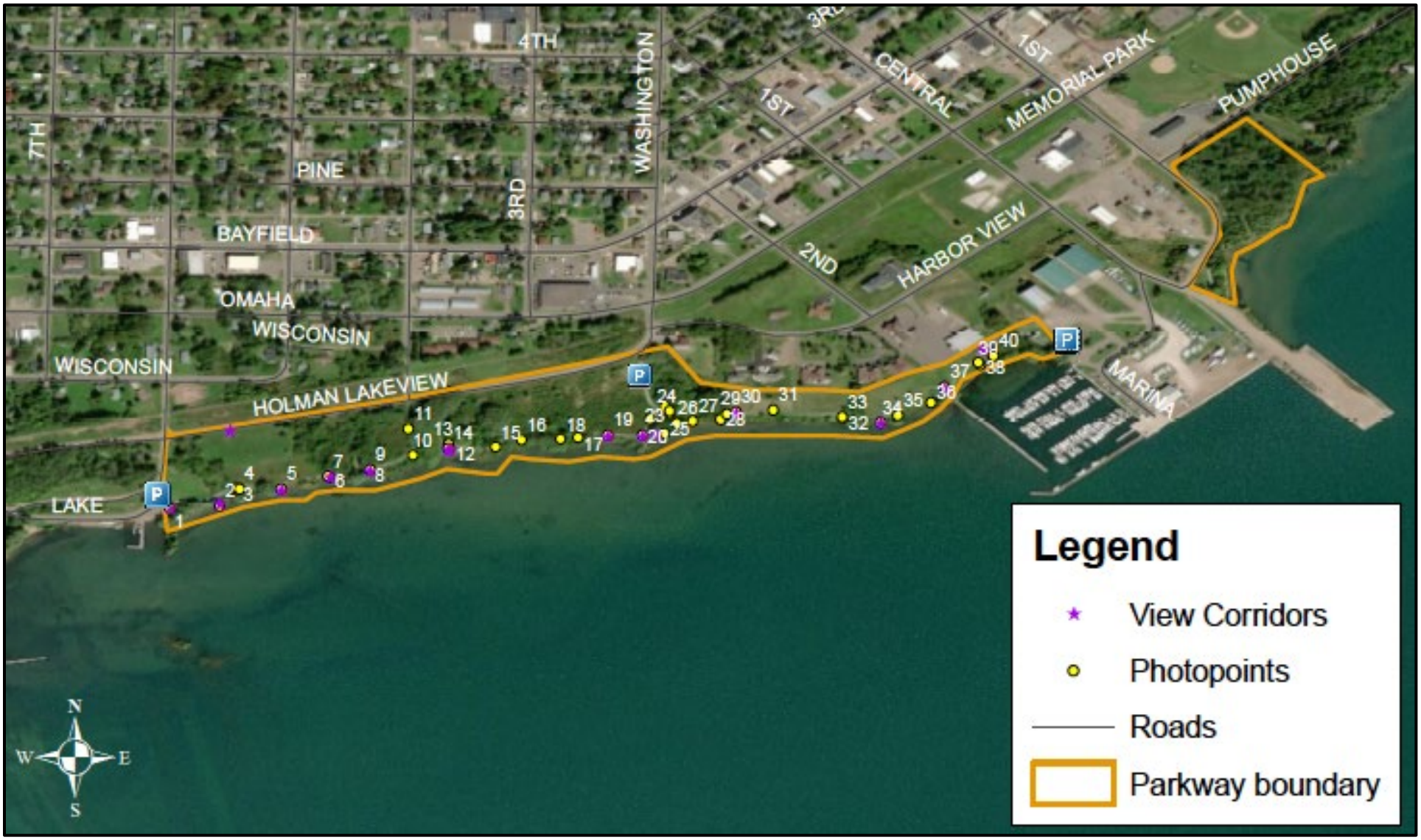
If additional view corridors are desired, location and size will be carefully considered by the City's Parks Committee (if committee is still standing) and City Staff. Activities may include:

- 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