

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



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715-373-6161
FAX 715-373-6148

NOTICE OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: September 20, 2022

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Washburn City Hall

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

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81345785919?pwd=U3h6bUxMbyt3ak5jUEVhUXVtcDZYUT09> or by calling 888-788-0099 (Toll-free) and entering Mtg ID: 813 4578 5919 and Passcode: 092022. Limited seating will be available at the meeting and guests are asked to keep a six-foot distance.

Agenda:

- Call to Order/Roll Call
- Approval of the August 10, 2022 and August 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- Updates from Public Works Department
- Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan & WI Coastal Management Grant
- Discussion & Action of Mowing Procedures & Locations Outlined in the Walking Trail Land Management Plan
- Discussion & Action of Outdoor Recreation Plan (assets, priorities & projects)
- Discussion & Action of Public Input Meetings for Proposed Expansion of West End Park Campground
- 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.

August 10, 2022

**CITY OF WASHBURN PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

6:00 PM

Washburn City Hall and virtually

Members Present:

Angel Croll, Jamie Cook, Jeremy Oswald, Erika Lang

Municipal Personnel Present:

Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator

Absent:

Jennifer Maziasz (Council rep)

Call to Order/Roll call

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM. Four (4) of Five (5) members of the Committee are present; quorum is recognized.

Discussion & Acton of Outdoor Recreation Plan (assets, priorities, and projects)

Review of previous discussion from June 21, 2022 that remained unchanged: Triangle Park, East side Park

Review of previous discussion from June 21, 2022 that were modified from draft version of Outdoor Recreation Plan:

City Hall Plaza:

PRIORITY

- Replace/upgrade benches and picnic tables.

Wikdal Park:

- Add to existing facilities Electric panel, water spigot.

New discussion of draft version of Outdoor Recreation Plan:

Legion Park:

PRIORITY

- Park development plan.

Jackie's Field:

PRIORITY

- Improve stormwater control, bicycle rack, picnic pavilion, potable water, restroom.

Hillside Park:

PRIORITY

- Replace/upgrade benches and picnic tables.
- Remove recommended improvement: playground
- Add recommended improvement: disc golf course

Athletic Field & Skate Rinks:

PRIORITY

- Warming shed building improvement to include all year-round restroom and concession usage, create park management plan, add hockey rink and basketball hoop.
- Add to existing facilities extended water lines to fields and to ice rink

West End Park Boat Landing:

PRIORITY

- Expand parking.

Coal Dock Beach & Trail/Parkway Extension:

PRIORITY

- Improve stormwater control
- Create management plan.

Thompson's West End Park:

- Skip

Lakefront Historic Walking Trail & Parkway:

PRIORITY

- Review/update management plan.
- Relocate trail at marina.
- Renovate trail between Washington Ave and Marina

Due to the late hour and number/complexity of remaining parks, the committee decided to continue the discussion & action of the Outdoor Recreation Plan at the next monthly Parks Committee meeting on August 16, 2022.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Angel Croll

Secretary, Parks Committee

August 16, 2022

CITY OF WASHBURN PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

6:30 PM

Washburn City Hall and virtually

Members Present:

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

Municipal Personnel Present:

Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator, Gerry
Schuette, Director of Public Works

Absent:

none

Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM. Four (4) of Five (5) members of the Committee are present; quorum is recognized. Maziasz arriving late.

Approval of July 27, 2022 Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

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

Updates from Public Works Department

Public Works Director Gerry Schuette gave the following updates:

- Finished trimming along Walking Trail.
- Memorial Park water service is upgraded.
- Water service expansion at athletic field and skate rinks complete to hockey rink and baseball fields.

Asst. Administrator Tony Janisch had additional updates:

- Thompson's West End Park decorative fish has been refreshed with new paint and clear coat
- WOW submitted grant applications for the pump track to IMBA and MMC
- Money in firewood fee box(es) was stolen
- Signs have been installed at beaches for e-coli levels and open/close. County is responsible for updating safety level.

Update on Implementation of the Walking Trail Land Management Plan & WI Coastal Management Grant

Questions were asked regarding the City mowing per the management plan. Maziasz asked about the field at Thompson's West End between campground and south lakefront. Lang asked about the area in front of the condos. Suggestion was made to add to September agenda regarding management plan and condo owners.

Discussion & Action of Public Input meetings for proposed expansion of West End Park Campground

A two-sided questionnaire was developed with questions and space provided for additional comments. Images of the proposed campground expansion and website link for additional information provided on back. September 9, 2022, is the final day to submit comments and can be dropped off at City Hall.

The flyer announcing the Public Input Sessions Meeting are completed and being posted around the City. Dates are set for Aug 23 4:30–5:30pm; Aug 30 6:30-7:30pm. An article in the Ashland Daily Press printed on 8/16/22.

Discussion & Action of Outdoor Recreation Plan (assets, priorities & projects)

Thompson's West End Park

PRIORITY

- Revisit expansion of West End Park Master Plan for future improvements to determine if it is adequate and relevant.
- Investigate a plan for low lying field for water and goose control with high consideration of environmental conditions especially hydrologic and vegetative.
- Replace playground equipment.

Lakefront Historic Walking Trail & Parkway

PRIORITY

- Review and update of management plan every three years and also establish a boundary between campground and lakefront using Thompson's West End Master Plan as a guide

Memorial Park

PRIORITY

- Prepare campground development plan.
- Manage erosion control along lakefront shoreline

Recreation Trail (formally known as Old Railroad grade)

PRIORITY

- Install signage as required

Legion Park

- Update to include construct gazebo or band stage in recommended improvements.

Public Lands- Thompson West End Park to South City Limits

PRIORITY

- Investigate walking trail loop with high consideration of environmental conditions especially hydrologic and vegetative.

School & Private Recreation Facilities

Recommended

- Modify title from "Washburn Elementary School" to "Washburn School District"
- Eliminate any recommendations in this section from the Outdoor Recreation Plan as these areas are not City owned lands.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Angel Croll

Secretary, Parks Committee

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715-373-6160
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To: Parks Committee
From: Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator
Re: Walking Trail Land Management Plan Mowing Procedures & Locations
Date: September 16, 2022

At this August 16, 2022, Parks Meeting, it was suggested that a discussion be had regarding City mowing along the Lakeshore Walking Trail. I have included the management plan for the Lakeshore Parkway & Walking Trail for your review.

However, I recommend that discussion of this be moved to the October meeting as the Public Works Director will not be in attendance at the September meeting.

2020

LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN:
WASHBURN LAKESHORE PARKWAY AND WALKING TRAIL



Written by Parks Committee

Adopted by Washburn City Council

3/9/2020

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INTRODUCTION

Background

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

History of the Washburn Walking Trail

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

Management Plan Update

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

Exhibit A - Map of Natural Area



Property Description, Past & Current Conditions

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

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

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

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

Descriptions of Habitat Areas

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

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

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

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

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Goals

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

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

Restoration Opportunities and Practices

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

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

Best Management Practices

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

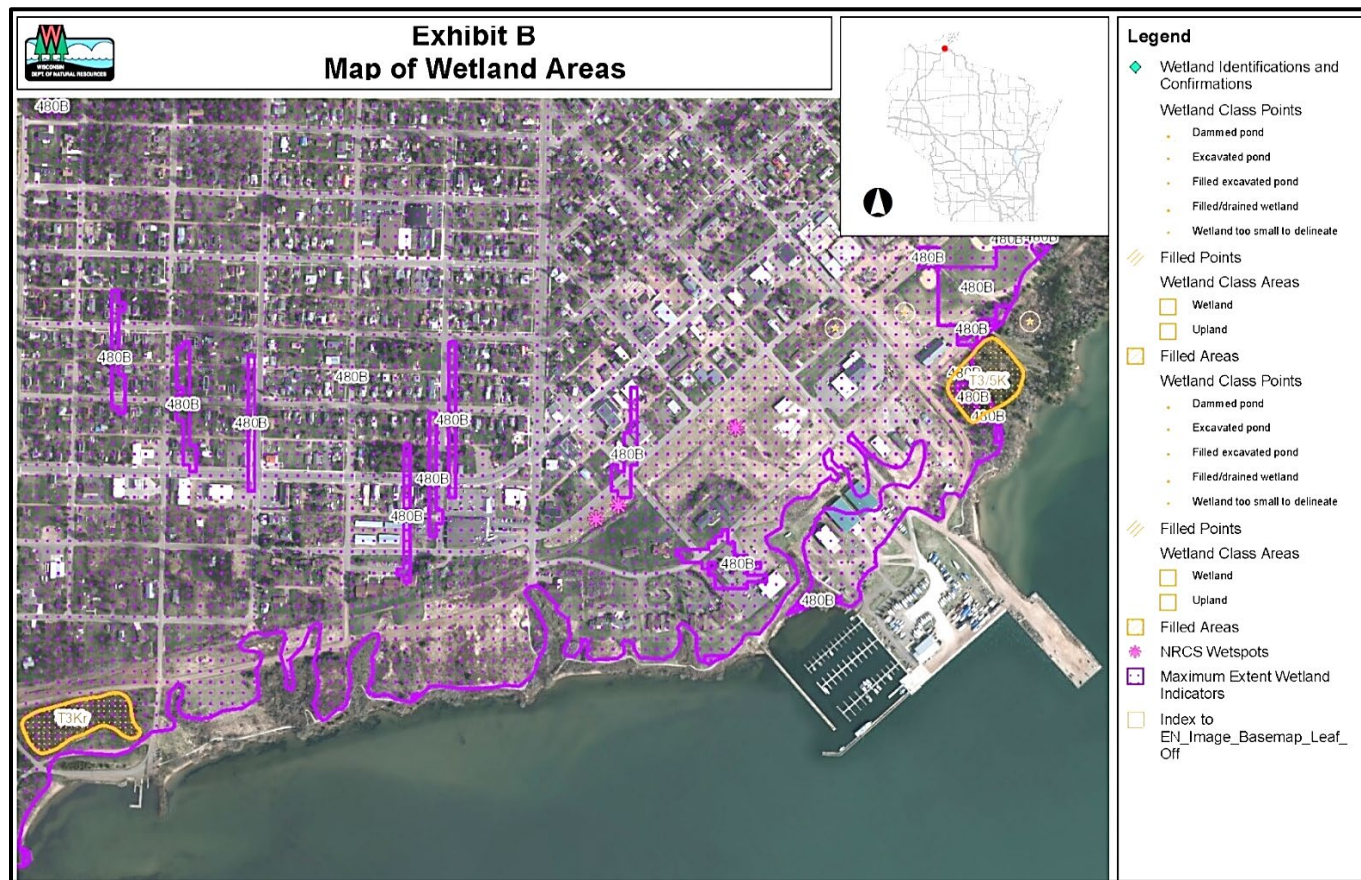
- **Invasive Plant Species Removal & Control**

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

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

- Wetland Protection & Management

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



- Lakeshore & Slope Protection

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

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

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

- Sourcing Fill

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

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

- Trail Creation

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

- Infrastructure

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

City of Washburn Department of Public Works Maintenance Activities

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

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

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

Other Activities

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

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

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

PROPERTY ACCESS AND MONITORING ACTIVITIES

Access

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

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

Monitoring

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

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

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

IMPLEMENTING, REVIEWING, AND REVISING THE PLAN

Implementation

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

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

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

Review and Revision of Management Plan

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

APPENDICES

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

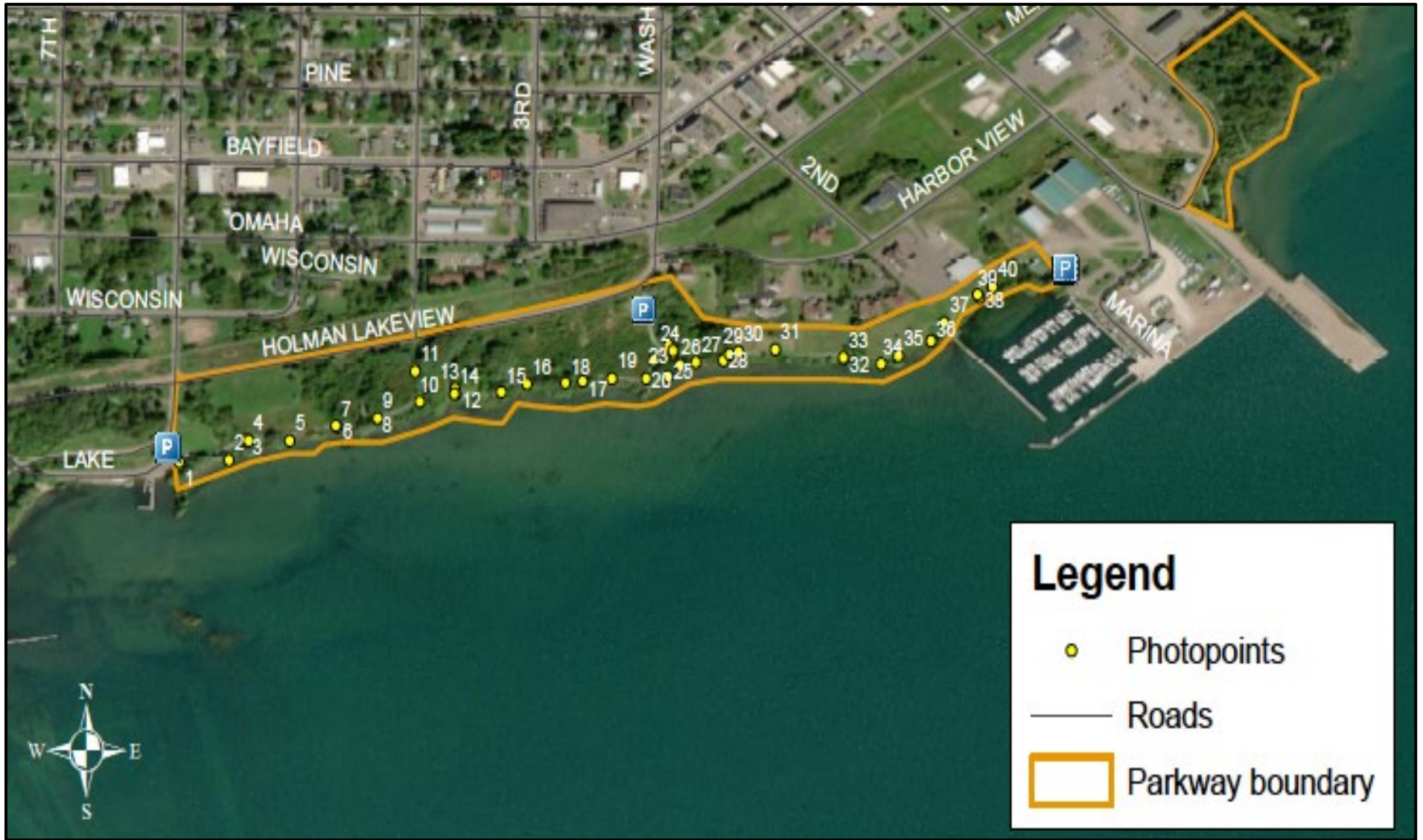


Photo #	Description	Longitude	Latitude	Compass Bearing (degrees)
1	Trail Entrance	-90.90237	46.6665	67
2	Interpretive Sign	-90.90159	46.6666	128
3	Interpretive Sign	-90.901316	46.6668	47
4	Culvert and Erosion	-90.90129	46.6668	129
5	Shoreline	-90.90065	46.6668	92
6	Shoreline near bridge	-90.8999	46.667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

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

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 7



Photo 8



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 11



Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 19



Photo 20



Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 21



Photo 22



Photo 17



Photo 18



Photo 23



Photo 24



Photo 25



Photo 26



Photo 31



Photo 32



Photo 27



Photo 28



Photo 33

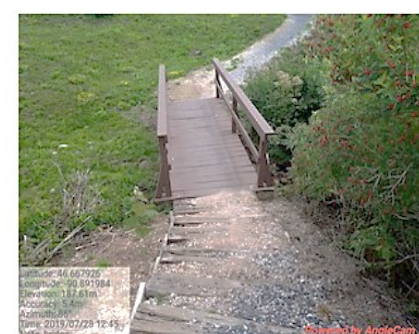


Photo 34



Photo 29



Photo 30



Photo 35



Photo 36



Photo 37



Photo 38



Photo of Area 8 - Taken 1/4/2020



Photo 39



Photo 40



Photo of Area 8 - Taken 1/4/2020



Appendix B: View Corridor Criteria and Map

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

Criteria for View Corridor Maintenance

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

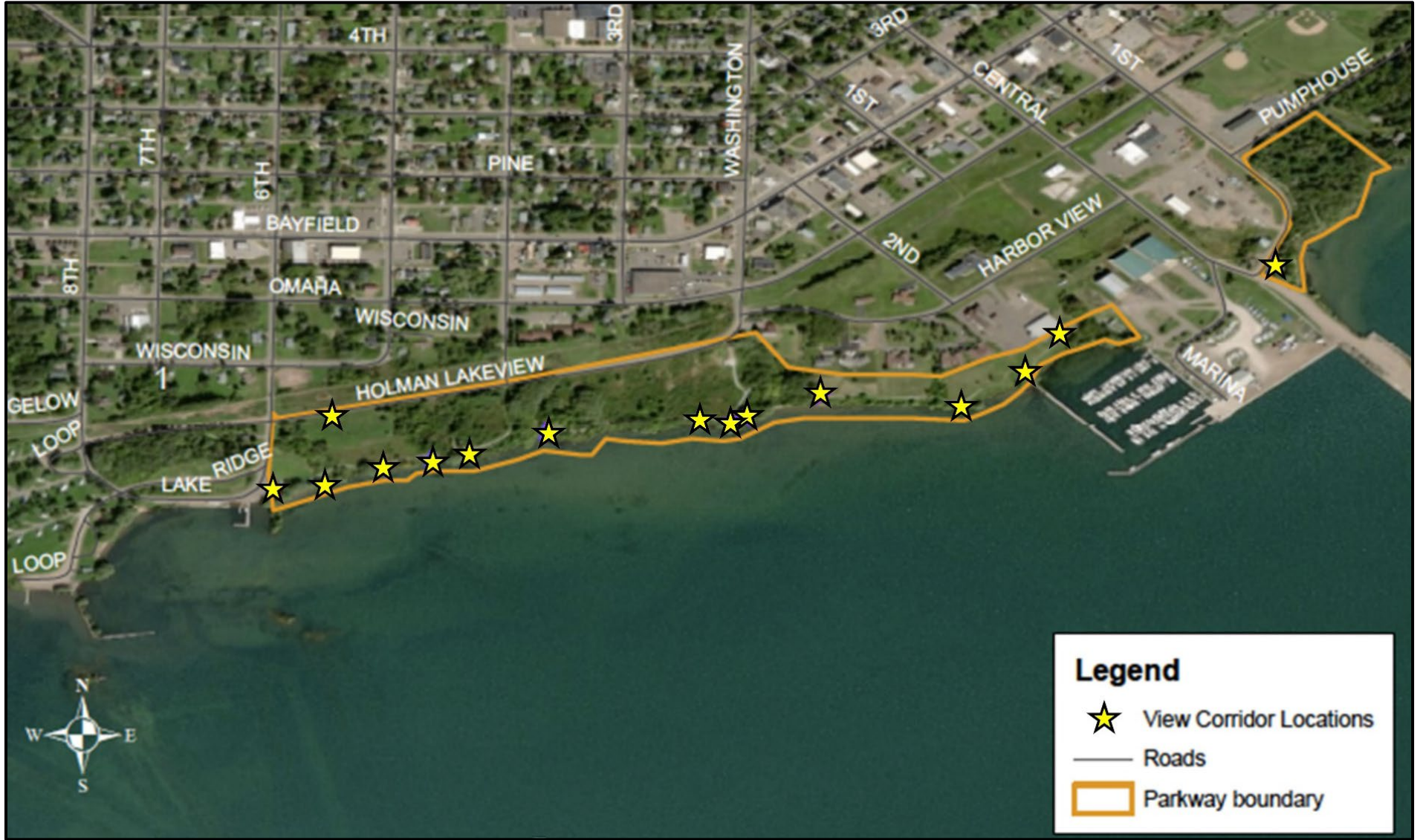
- Limiting cutting and trimming to retain low growth of plants. If vegetation is cut, it is recommended that it will not be cut below 2-3 feet in height. Limit root disturbance during corridor maintenance activities.
- Selectively limbing mature trees to allow for viewsheds below the tree canopy level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

Criteria for New Corridor Creation

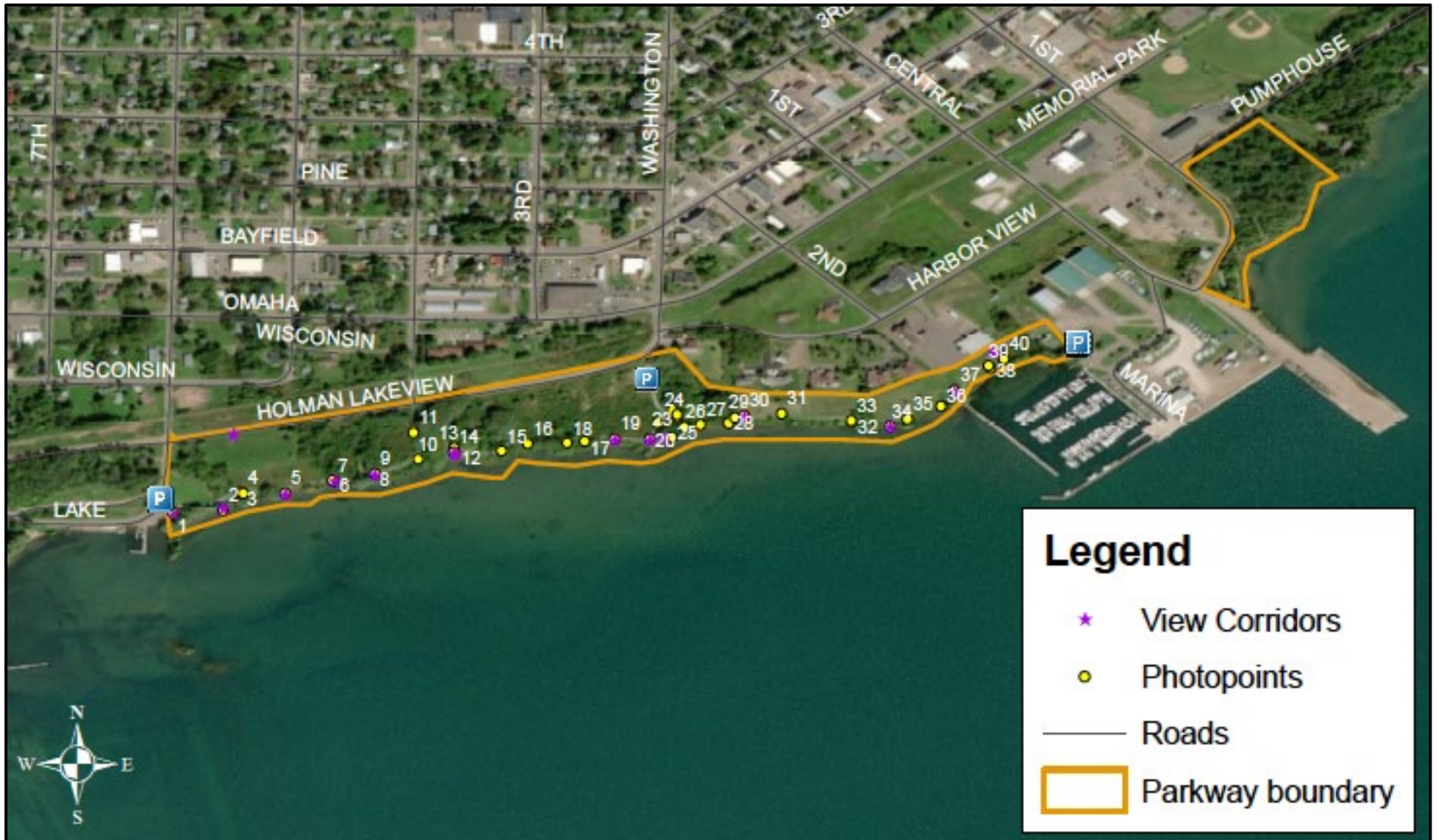
If additional view corridors are desired, location and size will be carefully considered by the City's Parks Committee (if committee is still standing) and City Staff. Activities may include:

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

View Corridor Map



Infrastructure Locations & Current Conditions with View Corridors



Appendix C: Description of Invasive Plant Species and Treatment Recommendations

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

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

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

Common Buckthorn – *Rhamnus cathartica*

Description

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

Treatment

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



Common Tansy – *Tanacetum vulgare*

Description

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

Treatment

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



Eurasian Honeysuckle – *Lonicera spp.*

Description

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

Treatment

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



Garden Valerian – *Valeriana officinalis*

Description

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

Treatment

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



Ornamental Silvergrass – *Miscanthus spp.*

Description

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

Treatment

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



Purple Loosestrife – *Lythrum salicaria*

Description

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

Treatment

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



2

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



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

To: Parks Committee
From: Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator
Re: Outdoor Recreation Plan
Date: September 16, 2022

Included is a the most recent revision of the Draft Outdoor Recreation Plan. I do not believe we need much discussion of this. Just a set of eyes to ensure that our discussion and suggestions were incorporated into the draft document.

1. OUTDOOR RECREATION



1.1 INTRODUCTION

The City of Washburn recognizes that parks, recreation, and open space are essential to the quality of life for community residents. These resources provide an environment and setting where residents can engage in passive or active recreational pursuits. Parks and open space provide gathering spaces for families, social groups, and individuals, regardless of ability to pay. Recreational resources and programming; including community events hosted in public parks, are accessible by persons of all ages and abilities. These spaces also provide opportunities to engage in healthy activities in a relaxed, natural setting which contributes overall community wellness. Parks and open space also play an important role in protecting both ground and surface water, provide flood control functions and serve as critical habitat for plants and animals. Parks, outdoor recreation, and open space are also important economic resources to the City of Washburn. In addition to generating revenue from user fees, indirect spending within the community and economic activity generated is greatly important to local businesses.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE OUTDOOR RECREATION ELEMENT

This City of Washburn Outdoor Recreation Element of the comprehensive plan reviews and updates information on the physical infrastructure and lands that make up the City's parks, recreation, and open space system, and it provides guidance for future enhancement and expansion of the system. This element addresses Washburn's long-range park, recreation and open space needs but focuses primarily on needs over the next 5-year period (2021-2026). Submission of this element to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) maintains eligibility for a variety of Federal and State Aids to purchase land and to add facilities to existing outdoor recreation lands. Preparation of this element was conducted in accordance with guidance found in Wisconsin Statutes 23.30, Outdoor Recreation Program, and the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

1.3 PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE PROFILE

Mini Parks		
 <p>Triangle Park 0.12 Acres</p> <p>This irregular pocket park is located at the intersection of N. Washington Ave/N. Central Ave. and W. 5th Street. This small park space provides minimal amenities and has no facilities.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flower gardens • Benches 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p> <p>Priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve current sidewalk, ADA compliant • Landscaping and vegetation as necessary • Provide space for public art • Replace/upgrade benches
 <p>City Hall Plaza 0.25 Acres</p> <p>Small plaza fronting City Hall along Bayfield St/Washington Ave. Key features include a fountain, walkway, flag poles, flower gardens and benches.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fountain • Lighting • Walkways • Flag poles • Flower gardens • Benches & picnic tables 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p> <p>Priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscaping and vegetation as necessary • Replace/upgrade plaza lights • Replace/upgrade benches & picnic tables • Replace/upgrade plaza walkways • Install interpretive signage, including map with city parks

Neighborhood Parks



East Side Tennis Courts
0.60 Acres

Public recreation area located between E. Bayfield St. and E. 3rd St. Features fenced in tennis courts (asphalt), 1/2 court basketball, tennis backboard and benches.

Existing Facilities

- Tennis courts
- Benches
- Fencing
- 1/2 court basketball court
- Tennis backboard

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Determine focus for Hillside Courts expansion or pursue resurfacing East Side courts
- Re-envision public or community space
- Improve storm water handling
- Install drinking fountain.
- Remove basketball court
- Provide ADA compliant pathway access
- Replace/upgrade benches
- Renovate tennis court lighting
- Landscaping as necessary.
- Improve signage.



Wikdal Park
0.88 Acres

Community gateway park located at the intersection of W. Bayfield St. and N. 3rd Ave W. Site features benches, lighting, informational kiosk, picnic tables and flower gardens. This park hosts a number of community events during the year.



Existing Facilities

- Benches
- Lighting
- Picnic tables
- Flower gardens
- Electrical panel
- Water spigot
- Informational Kiosk

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Prepare park development plan
- Renovate flower gardens and landscaping as needed
- Construct gazebo or band stage
- Upgrade/Install utilities for outdoor lighting and restrooms
- Construct ADA compliant walkways
- Install drinking fountain
- Place benches and picnic tables

 <p>Legion Park 1.12 Acres</p> <p>Park and public open space located along E. Bayfield St. and N. 1st Ave E. This site houses the city's veterans memorial and features flag poles, flower gardens, pathways, and benches.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran's Memorial • Flag poles • Flower gardens • Pathways • Benches & picnic tables • Bus stop shelter 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p> <p>Priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare park development plan • Extend utilities to park, with potable water • Replace pathways with ADA compliant walkways • Renovate and expand flower gardens and landscaping as needed • Upgrade/replace benches and picnic tables • Construct gazebo or band stage • Reimagine Veteran's Memorial • Provide space for public art
 <p>Jackie's Field 1.28 Acres</p> <p>Neighborhood park located at the intersection of E. 3rd St. and N 3rd Ave. E. Site features playground equipment, benches, picnic tables and a sandlot ball field with backstop. The open area also serves as a soccer field.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground set, swings and slide • Benches • Exercise equipment • Free Little Library • Sandlot ball field • Picnic tables • Gravel parking lot 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p> <p>Priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct covered picnic shelter • Construction of restrooms; potable water • Improve storm water handling • Install bike rack • ADA compliant pathways throughout park • New backstop and fencing at ball field • Construction of soccer field • Extend utilities to park • Add more picnic tables • Landscaping and vegetation as necessary • Explore feasibility of splash pad



Hillside Park
3.11 Acres

Neighborhood park located at N. 3rd Ave. W. and W. Hillside Dr. Site amenities include tennis courts (asphalt), 1/2 basketball court, sandlot ball diamond, tennis backstop, benches, and picnic tables.

Existing Facilities

- Playground
- 1/2 court basketball court
- Benches & picnic tables
- Tennis courts
- Sand lot ball diamond
- Tennis backstop

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Resurface tennis courts
- Expand tennis courts
- Construct pickle ball courts
- Replace/upgrade benches and picnic tables

- Construct covered picnic shelter
- Construct restroom facilities
- Extend utilities and potable water
- Construct parking lot
- Remove playground
- Install frisbee golf
- Landscaping and vegetation as necessary
- Construct ADA complaint pathways and access
- Renovate tennis court lighting
- Install signage as necessary

Community Parks



Athletic Field & Skate Rinks

13.31 Acres

Located between E. Memorial Park Dr. and E. Pumphouse Rd. The property includes regulation softball, baseball, and Little League fields, two ice skating rinks, warming house, restrooms, and a concession stand. A groomed snowmobile trail also bisects the property.

Existing Facilities

- Regulation softball field with dugouts
- Regulation baseball field with dugouts and scoreboard
- Regulation little league field with dugouts
- Two ice rinks
- Restrooms, concession stand, warming building
- Parking and access road

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Prepare park development management & usage plan for Athletic Fields Park
- Connect lakefront parkway walking trail through park
- Reconstruct east skating rink (hockey)
- Install basketball hoops on blacktop at ice rink area
- Update warming shed to be all year-round bathroom/concession usage

- Tree planting & landscaping
- Install electronic scoreboards at all fields
- Install lighting at fields
- Install bleachers at all fields
- Construct covered picnic pavilion(s)
- Develop/construct biking pump track
- Develop/construct curling rink
- Improve storm water handling

Completed

- *Improve waterlines for ice rink flooding*
- *Extend waterlines to ballfields for irrigation & potable water*

Waterfront Recreation



West End Park Boat Landing
0.38 Acres

Public boat launch on Chequamegon Bay located just east of the campgrounds, at Lake Dr. and S 6th Ave W. Renovated in 2020 and features boat ramps, docks, and parking areas. Adjacent features include trailhead, fitness equipment, overflow camping, and beach.

Existing Facilities

- Boat Docks
- Boat Launch
- Picnic Point
- Beach
- Overflow Camping Area
- Paved & Grass Parking Area
- Lakeshore Parkway Trailhead
- Fitness Equipment
- North Coast Community Sailing Instruction Storage Sheds

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Expand parking to accommodate larger boat trailer parking
- Improve infrastructure (restrooms, parking, landscaping)
- Stormwater management improvements.
- Construct community center or pavilion (determine need and/or desire)
- Expand Maritime Trail signage
- Add picnic tables and benches



Coal Dock Beach & Trail/Parkway Extension
0.52 Acres

Public beach located next to the Coal Dock. Includes access to a gravel trail and parkway extension. This site provides parking amenities as well as benches that overlook Lake Superior.



Existing Facilities

- Beach
- Parking
- Gravel trail
- Overlooks with benches

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Prepare park development plan
- Improve stormwater management and erosion
- Upgrade parking at beach area
- Install stairway access from picnic area
- Install signage, interpretive and directional
- Replace/upgrade benches
- Install picnic tables
- Identify and install kayak launch area
- Develop yurt camping along overlook

 <p>Commercial Dock 2.04 Acres</p> <p>Public access site at one of the last working bulk cargo docks on Chequamegon Bay. Site features a mooring bollard for commercial boats, fishing area and a small beach. This site is also a popular winter access to Chequamegon Bay.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mooring bollard for commercial boats • Transloading and storage space available • Fishing area • Parking area for winter activities 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install better signage of area rules
 <p>Washburn Marina 18.74 Acres</p> <p>Full-service marina located 3 blocks from the City's commercial district, just west of the Commercial Dock. The Marina offers a variety of services including dockage, bulk cargo storage areas, boat ramps, a 150-ton boat lift, indoor and outdoor vessel storage, and vessel repair.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 138 boat slips, plus 5 transient slips • Piers & docks with electric and water 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 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p> <p>Priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct additional 5-8 transient slips on Pier 4 • Repair and expand parking areas. • Relocate lakefront trail • Landscaping/aesthetic improvements as practical for operations, improve appearance of main entrance area. • Build enhancements to/better delineate lakefront trail • Asphalt Central Avenue down to beginning of Coal Dock; delineate parking in that area; add riprap along shoreline • Provide ADA dock/lift facilities to pier(s) • Expand boat storage facilities



Thompson's West End Park
22.02 Acres

Park and campground located at the foot of 8th Ave W. Site features include 50 campsites with utility hookups, showers, restrooms, dump station, two artesian wells, festival area, picnic area and shelter, swimming beach, playground, fishing pier, boat launch and docks.

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 – across from pavilion.
- Covered picnic shelter.
- Picnic area.
- Swimming beach.
- Playground area.
- Boat launch & docks.
- Storm water conveyance pond.
- Volleyball sand area/pit

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Revisit West End Park Master Plan for adequacy and updates
- Replace playground equipment.

- Improve park infrastructure (i.e., water & sewer, roads & parking, trails, signage, kiosk, hardscape, public facilities)
- Add full-service picnic shelter/cabin
- Extend Lakefront Trail through park
- Construct year-round ADA compliant restrooms
- Develop better access to lake by pavilion (i.e., rollout dock, fishing pier)
- Construct roof structure over artesian wells and upgrade piping
- Construct waterfront gazebo
- Establish ADA compliant pathways and access trails, including a walkway from the playground & pavilion to the bathrooms
- Erosion control along lakefront
- Improve existing campfire area by pavilion
- Develop additional campsites/camping areas
- Invasive plant control as needed
- Investigate vegetation needs for flood control and geese control at lower field and along shore



Lakefront Historic Walking Trail & Parkway
29.14 Acres

This Wisconsin Maritime Trail features a gravel walkway extending from 6th Ave. W. to 1st Ave. E. Features present include interpretive signage, picnic tables and benches, parking, bridges over ravines, native landscaping, and trailhead at 4th Ave. W.

Existing Facilities

- Gravel trail from 6th Avenue West to 1st Avenue East
- Maritimes Trail & Historical signage
- Picnic tables and benches
- Parking & trail heads at 6th Avenue West, Washington Ave. & Marina.
- Bridges over ravines
- Fitness Area and Equipment
- Natural habitat
- 6th Avenue West to Washington Avenue is ADA accessible
- Beaches, at 6th Ave and Washington Ave. trailheads

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Review & update of management plan every three years.
- Relocate trail within Washburn Marina.
- Renovate trail between Washington Avenue and Marina with switchbacks and bridges across ravines according to ADA standards
- Monitor erosion

- Improve trail heads and parking lots.
- Improve trail & bridges according to ADA standards.
- Improve trail erosion, sedimentation, and native species plantings, factoring climate change.
- Install additional benches and picnic tables.
- Expand trail from 1st Avenue East to Memorial Park.
- Expand picnic or pet exercising areas.
- Install pet waste stations at trail heads
- Expand & improve Maritime Trails, historical and informational signage within parkway
- Construct picnic pavilion & restroom at Washington Ave. Trailhead.



Memorial Park
25.85 Acres

Park and campground located on E. Memorial Park Dr., overlooking Chequamegon Bay. Site features 50 campsites, dump station, playground, picnic areas, shower, and restrooms. Electric, cable TV and WI-FI Internet access is available at some sites.

Existing Facilities

- Campground
- Covered picnic shelter
- Dump station
- Electric and cable TV service to some sites and WIFI. – Electric, Cable & Wi-Fi in all sites.
- Playground
- Historic kitchen building (no water, plumbing)
- Picnic areas
- Pathways and bridges across ravines
- Restrooms and shower building
- Information kiosk and payment pipe
- Parking area
- Archway Entrance (South 6th Avenue East)
- Trail to lake access
- Firewood shed

Recommended Improvements

Priority

- Prepare campground development plan
- Replace playground equipment
- Erosion control along lakefront

- Improve park infrastructure (i.e., water & sewer, roads & parking, trails, signage, kiosk, land/hardscape, public facilities)
- Replace full-service picnic shelter/cabin
- Update/remodel restrooms to meet ADA compliance
- Pathways and access trails that comply with ADA
- Create/improve existing campfire area by pavilion
- Develop additional campsites/camping areas (yurt, primitive, glamping)
- Install beach volleyball /multi-purpose rec area
- Invasive plant control as needed
- Expand/connect park trail and old railroad to create inner city trail loop
- Rebuild caretaker's house for historic purposes
- Seek opportunities to acquire adjacent lands to expand Memorial Park

Recreation Trail



Recreation Trail
5.34 Miles

The City of Washburn purchased the majority of the former Chicago and Northwestern Railroad right-of-way within the city when the railroad abandoned service to the area in 1983. The right-of-way under municipal ownership has been converted into an off-road snowmobile and ATV trail.

Existing Facilities

- Multi-Use Recreation Trail (ATV, snowmobile, bike, walk)

Recommended Improvements

- Priority
- Install signage to better define multi-use
 - Landscaping and vegetation as necessary
 - Purchase or easement railroad right-of-way in private hands between Superior Ave. and Gary Road
 - Construct silent sports trail between 4th Avenue East and Superior Ave
 - Improve existing railroad grade to multipurpose trail to include walking, biking, skiing

Public Open Space



Public Open Space
83.42 Acres

Includes all of the undeveloped publicly owned land (non-park) that is primarily for outdoor recreation, passive outdoor enjoyment, and natural resource conservation.

Existing Facilities

Recommended Improvements

<p>Public Lands - Thompson West End Park to South City Limits <i>37.40 Acres</i></p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-Use Recreation Trail (ATV, snowmobile, bike, walk) 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate opportunities for looping trail connections • Extend Lakefront Trail from Thompson’s West End Park westward along lakefront to the south City limits (Summit Avenue) • Construct pedestrian bridge across Thompson Creek • Install signage along trails • Construct boardwalks over marshy areas of pedestrian trail
<p>School & Private Recreation Facilities</p>		
<p>Washburn Elementary School <i>16.65 Acres</i></p> <p>Athletic fields, basketball courts and playground equipment located on the Washburn Elementary School property along W. 8th St.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletic Fields • Basketball Courts • Playground 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p>
<p>Lake Superior View Golf Course <i>56.49 Acres</i></p> <p>Private 18-hole, par-66 golf course located on County Highway C in Washburn. Fee required.</p>	<p><u>Existing Facilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubhouse with deck. • Golf course & disc golf • Cross-county skiing • Winter fat-tire biking 	<p><u>Recommended Improvements</u></p>

1.4 ANALYSIS OF DEMAND AND NEED

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

An analysis of existing parks, recreational lands and open space is provided to determine whether the needs of city residents are being met. The City of Washburn currently provides about 215.2 acres of parkland, excluding open space. Considering the City's population of 2,051 residents (U.S. Census 2020), there are 0.10 acres of parkland per person, or 100 acres per 1,000 population. Inclusion of open space (83.4 acres) increases per capita parkland to 0.15 acres of parkland per person, or 150 acres per 1,000 population. According to the National Parks and Recreation Area (NPRA), typically there are 9.9 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents in the United States, and the general benchmark for parkland acreage is 10.5 acres per 1,000 population.

Park Acreage Overall Supply/Demand

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Population	2,051	2,010	1,945	1,916	1,863
Supply	299	299	299	299	299
Supply (Per Capita)	0.146	0.149	0.154	0.156	0.160
Demand (10.5 Ac/1,000 Pop)	22	21	20	20	20
Surplus/Deficiency	+277	+278	+279	+279	+279

Park Acreage Projected Supply/Deficit by Park Type (Former NPRA Standards)

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Population	2,051	2,010	1,945	1,916	1,863
Mini-Parks					
<i>Low Standard (0.25 Ac/1,000 Pop)</i>	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.08	-0.07
<i>High Standard (0.5 Ac/1,000 Pop)</i>	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5
Neighborhood Parks					
<i>Low Standard (1.0 Ac/1,000 Pop)</i>	+4.9	+5.0	+5.1	+5.1	+5.1
<i>High Standard (2.0 Ac/1,000 Pop)</i>	+2.9	+3.0	+3.1	+3.2	+3.3
Community Parks					
<i>Low Standard (5.0 Ac/1,000 Pop)</i>	+3.0	+3.3	+3.6	+3.7	+4.0
<i>High Standard (8.0 Ac/1,000 Pop)</i>	-3.1	-2.8	-2.3	-2.0	-1.6
Special Use Areas (No Standard Applicable)					
Open Space (No Standard Applicable)					

Determining if a community's park and open space needs are being met can be difficult. The process is often not methodical and depends heavily on input from community residents, park and open space users, officials, and staff. Formerly, the National Recreation and Park Association published standards for park acreage per 1,000 population (Table X). This measurement shows the relationship between the City of Washburn population and available parkland. Current methodology calls on each community to determine its own standard, or Level of Service (LOS), tailored to an appropriate range, quantity, and quality of recreational site, facilities, and amenities within its budgetary constraints.

Park Acreage Per 1,000 Population

	Total Acreage	Acreage Per 1,000
Mini-Parks	0.4	0.2
Neighborhood Parks	7.0	3.4
Community Parks	13.3	6.5

GEOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

The geographic location of parks, recreation, and open space facilities in relation to the community's population is an indicator of how well existing resources are distributed throughout the community. NRPA guidelines suggest that city residents should reside within 1/4 to 1/2 mile of some type of park or open space.

City Residents within 1/4 to 1/2 mile of Park or Open Space

C. Washburn Population 2,051 (2020 Census)	Residents	Percent
Estimated Population within 1/4 mile of a Park	1,523	74.3%
Estimated Population within 1/2 mile of a Park	2,051	100.0%
Estimated Population within 1/4 mile of Open Space	1,000	48.8%
Estimated Population within 1/2 mile of Open Space	1,951	95.1%
Estimated Population within Mini Park Service Area (1/4 mile)	763	37.2%
Estimated Population within Neighborhood Park Service Area (1/2 mile)	1,980	96.6%
Estimated Population within Community Park Service Area (1/2 mile)	2,051	100.0%

City Residents within 1/4 to 1/2 mile of Park or Open Space by Park

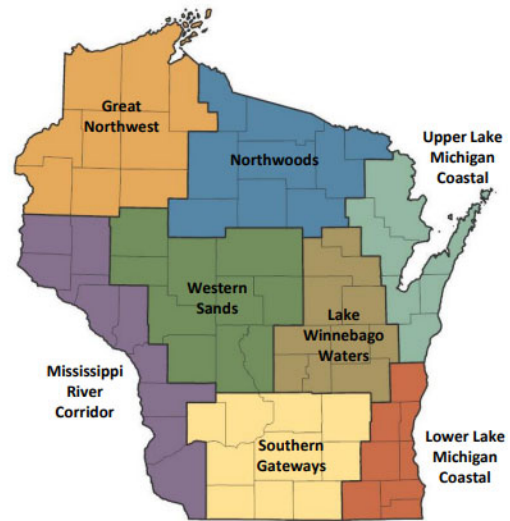
Park	Class	Estimated Population within 1/4 mile Radius	Estimated Population within 1/2 mile Radius
Small Triangle Park	Mini Park	527	337
City Hall Plaza	Mini Park	351	1,063
Hillside Park	Neighborhood Park	102	1,336
Jackie's Field	Neighborhood Park	349	832
East Side Tennis Courts	Neighborhood Park	265	802
Legion Park	Neighborhood Park	333	322
Wikdal Park	Neighborhood Park	403	94
Athletic Fields & Skating Rinks	Community Parks	62	555
West End Park Boat Landing	Waterfront Recreation	45	379
Washburn Marina	Waterfront Recreation	11	345
Commercial Dock & Beach	Waterfront Recreation	2	756
Thompsons West End Park	Waterfront Recreation	44	1,084
Memorial Park	Waterfront Recreation	62	1,083

Overall, park and recreation system resources are generally well distributed throughout the City of Washburn. Most City residents (74.3%) live within 1/4 mile of a park, while 100% reside within 1/2 mile of a park. Of the 2,051 City residents, nearly half (48.8%) live within 1/4 mile of public open space, while most (95.1%) reside within 1/2 mile of the City's open space resources, much of which is located along the City's waterfront.

1.5 REGIONAL AND STATE RECREATIONAL TRENDS

STATEWIDE COMPREHENSIVE RECREATION PLAN

The Wisconsin Statewide Recreation Plan (SCORP) evaluates outdoor recreation supply, demand, trends, and issues in Wisconsin. The 2019-2023 SCORP included a Recreation Opportunities Analysis conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to identify recreation needs for each of the 8 recreational regions in Wisconsin. The City of Washburn is within the 9-county Great Northwest Region of the state. High needs identified in the Recreational Opportunities Analysis for the Great Northwest Region include:



- ATV/UTV riding
- Bicycling - bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking
- Bird or wildlife watching
- Camping - developed and primitive
- Canoeing or kayaking
- Fishing
- Four-wheel vehicle driving
- Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking
- Hunting -big game
- Motor boating (including waterski/tubing, personal watercraft)
- Off-highway motorcycle riding
- Swimming in lakes and rivers

BAYFIELD COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

The Bayfield County Outdoor Recreation Plan 2020-2024 is a cooperative effort between Bayfield County and its many municipalities, which includes 25 towns, 2 cities (including the City of Washburn), as well as the Red Cliff Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, and several non-profits in the county. The plan identifies existing outdoor recreation-based infrastructure in Bayfield County while also listing foreseeable recreation facility needs.

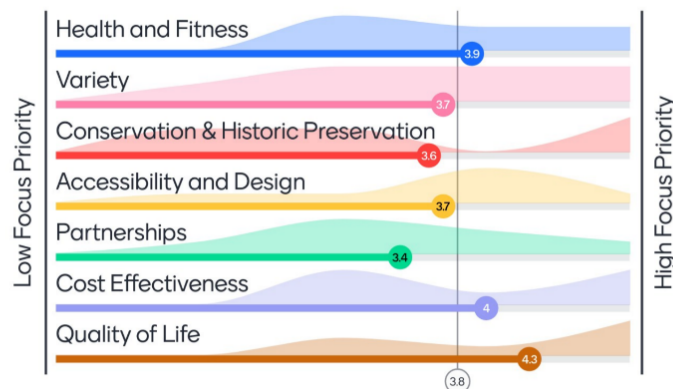
1.6 VISIONING

The vision framework for the Outdoor Recreation Element, prepared by the Washburn Parks Committee, was guided by the following basic principles.

- Plan should provide a guide for the sustainable development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities (sustainability related to economic and environment) things that are important include: maintenance, sustainability, balance place to live with place to come to visit, cost effectiveness, partnerships, conservation-minded, provide amenities that enhance the quality of life, people are drawn here because of nature and what we have.
- We need to continually engage and seek partners and we should be cautious about relying on partners too much. We should also create a partner list and communicate with partners as we develop a plan.
- We need to engage local residents; we need to determine what that engagement should look like (speak with people; page on City website; survey, etc.). We need to get lots of people's feedback, particularly from a diversity of generations and age groups.
- We also want to know what our visitors think/desire too as we develop the plan; we should make sure objectives and activities/projects are realistic and attainable. We also need to think about short-term and long-term maintenance. The plan should be a living document that can be updated.
- We could probably learn from other communities in our area related to how they created an outdoor recreation plan and engaged residents. Maybe we could get a presentation or meeting with them.
- Continue to visit and inventory City parks

These principles helped establish the core outdoor recreation planning focus topics, which were prioritized by the Parks Committee in March 2020.

Outdoor Recreation Planning Focus Topics



1.7 WASHBURN OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Overarching Goal: *Provide a partnership-driven, cost-effective, conservation-based multi-purpose outdoor evolving recreation system that enhances the quality of life and sustainability for its infrastructure, residents, and visitors alike.*

Focus Priority: Health and Fitness

Objective 1.1. Ensure healthy living activities and opportunities are easily accessible to residents and visitors through outdoor and indoor facility spaces.

Focus Priority: Variety

Objective 2.1. Offer various options and equitable opportunities for the public to participate in outdoor recreation experiences.

Focus Priority: Conservation & Historic Preservation

Objective 3.1 Invest in protecting outdoor and natural environments through historic preservation programming and conservation strategies.

Objective 3.2 Leverage the conservation and historic preservation investments through offering outdoor and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

Focus Priority: Accessibility and Design

Objective 4.1 Focus on creating and maintaining accessible outdoor recreation options and opportunities to facilitate a welcoming environment for locals and visitors balances healthy blend of natural and built environments for all to enjoy.

Focus Priority: Partnerships

Objective 5.1 Leverage and establishing new partnerships that provide representation in public, private, and non-profit sector collaboration that focuses on outdoor recreation.

Objective 5.2 Enable residents to provide feedback to enhance outdoor and recreational opportunities.

Focus Priority: Cost Effectiveness

Objective 6.1 Ensure that outdoor and recreation investments balance cost-effectiveness while leveraging opportunities that can benefit the community.

Focus Priority: Quality of Life

Objective 7.1 Promote lifestyle physical changes through investing in new and enjoyable outdoor recreational opportunities that encourage and challenge positive quality of life changes for residents and visitors.

Outdoor Recreation Development Policies

The City of Washburn's Outdoor Recreation Plan's needs were identified through a careful review of previous outdoor recreation assets and plans, on-site visits, and supported by the City of Washburn's Parks Committee and the city's administrative leadership, along with Northwest Regional Planning Commission staff's guidance of the process.

The following policies reflect and support the City of Washburn's Parks Committee's identified short-term project priorities and the necessary action steps towards implementing these policies accordingly.

1. Provide residents with opportunities to engage in recreational experiences throughout the city.
2. Evaluate potential recreation service gaps, emerging trends, and interests in outdoor recreation.
3. Collaborate with governmental, non-profit, and private entities to develop, maintain, and improve recreational facilities and resources for the benefit of the public.
4. Formalize user agreements with public, private, and non-profit partners for use and/or maintenance of city parks and recreational facilities.
5. Coordinate long range planning of parks and recreational resource with land use and the City's future land use map.
6. Manage parks and recreational facilities in a sustainable manner that promotes natural conditions, accessibility, safety standards, user needs, and emerging trends.
7. Maintain the Park Designated Fund as a means to support future park and recreational facility development and capital improvements.
8. Strive to balance city investments in parks and recreation development improvements between revenue generating facilities and other city parks and recreational assets.
9. Promote public awareness of the City's parks and recreational facilities through public meetings, wayfinding signage, maps, and other digital and print media.
10. Update the City's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan on a five-year cycle to maintain eligibility for state and federal grant programs.

Future Conceptual Improvements & Projects

The following is a list of conceptual outdoor recreational projects.

Inter-Community Trail

- 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

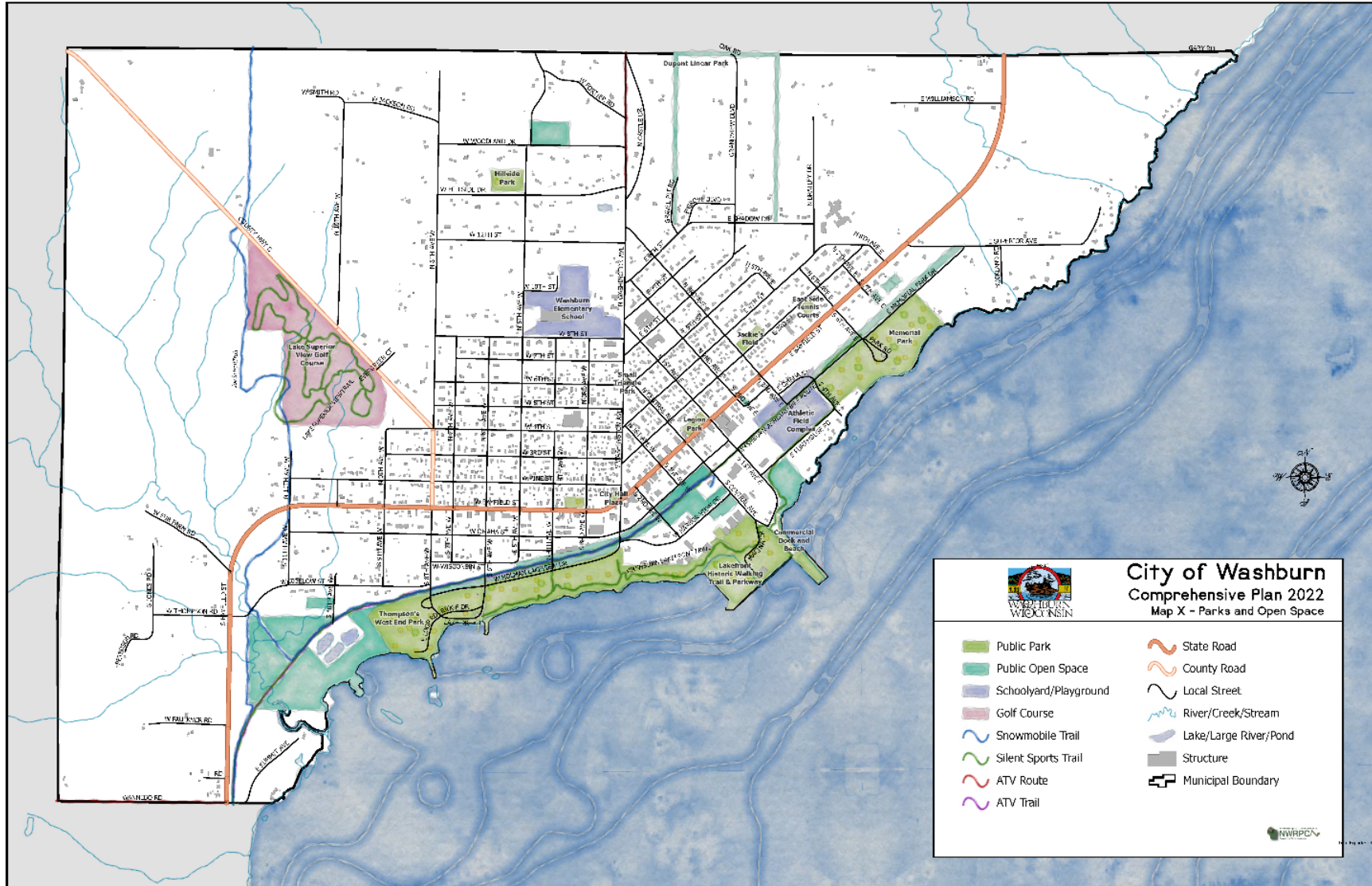
- Prepare park development plan.
- Provide clearing and grading of silent sports trail.
- Install benches.
- Surface trail with gravel.
- Prepare and publish maps and brochures of park.
- Purchase additional lands and easements as necessary to provide access to park, extend park, and establish trailheads.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

Washburn Green Circle Trail

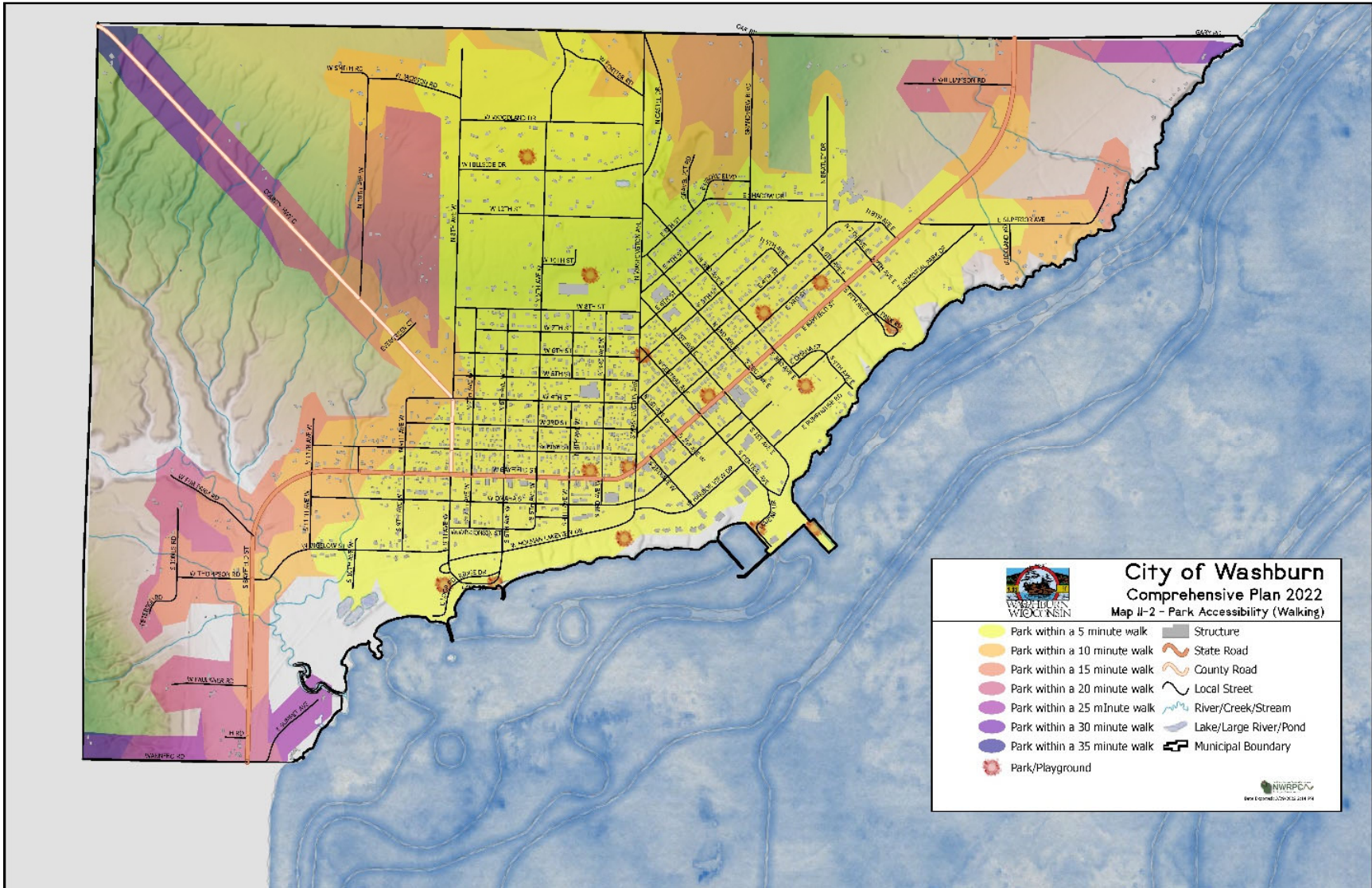
- Prepare trail development plan.
- Provide clearing and grading of silent sports trail.
- Install benches.
- Purchase trail maintenance equipment including ATV, trailers, and accessories.
- Surface trail with gravel.
- Install gates as necessary to limit motorized vehicles.
- Purchase additional lands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

1.8 OUTDOOR RECREATION MAPS

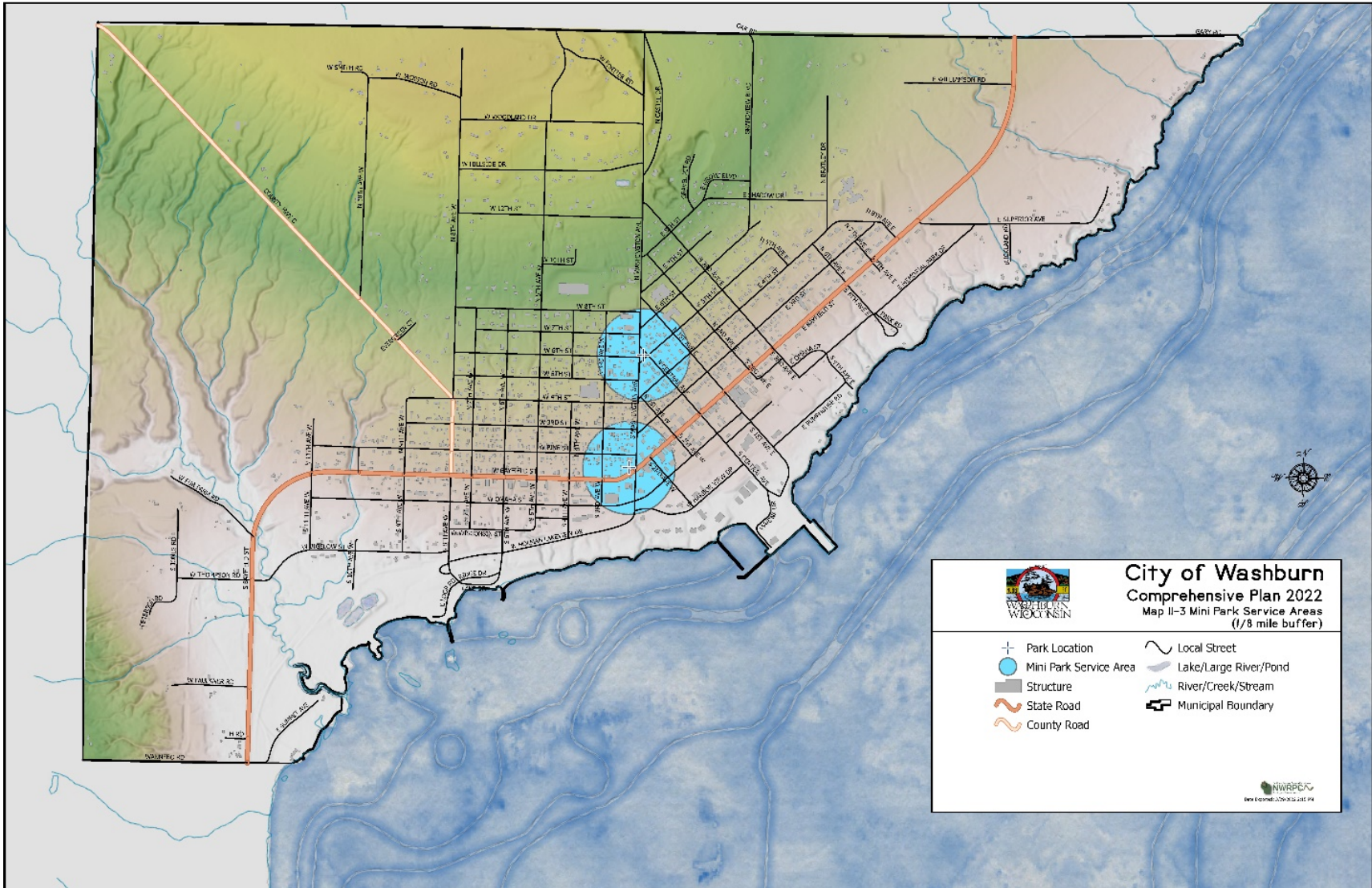
Parks And Open Space Map



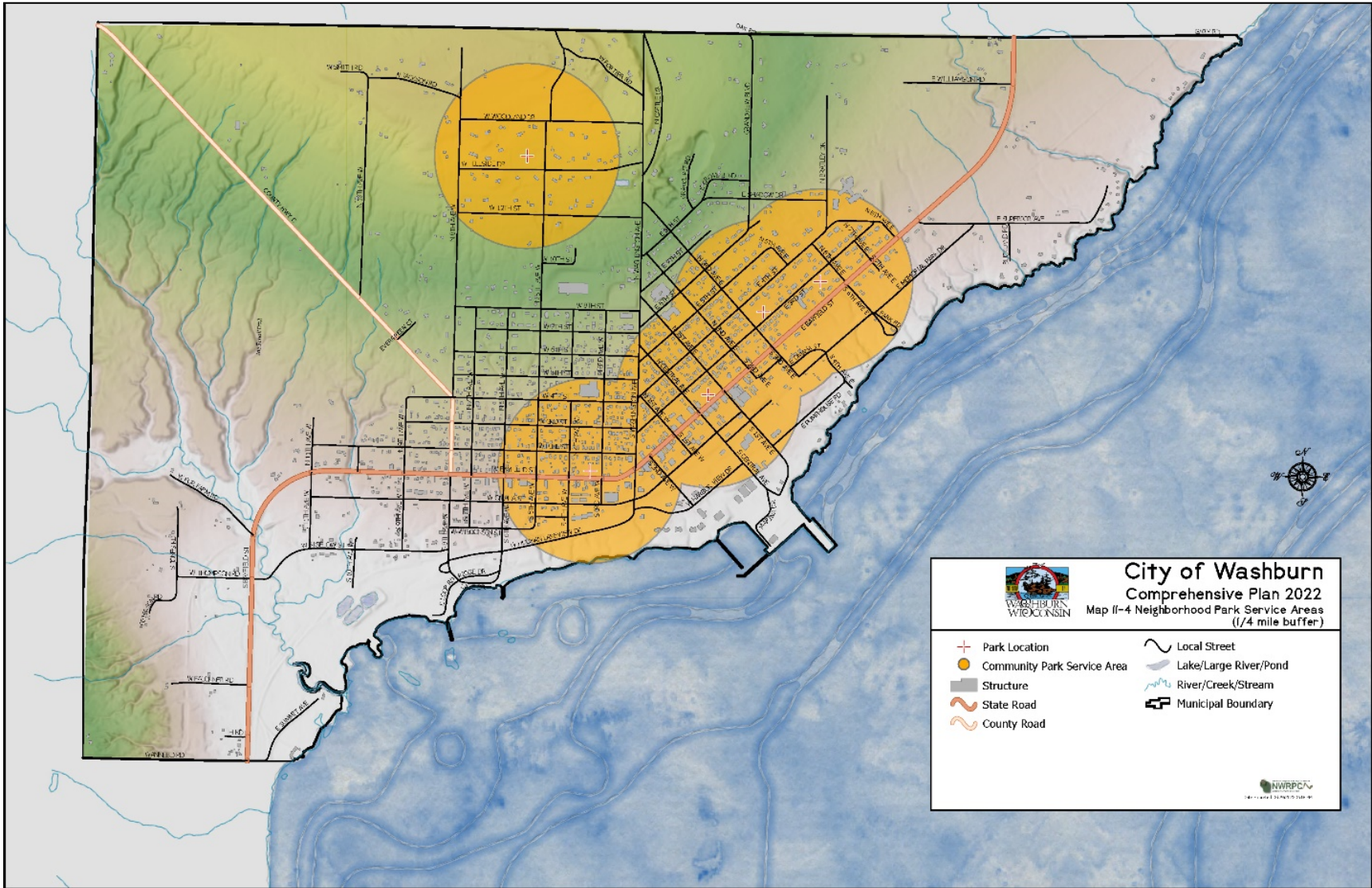
Park Accessibility Map (Walking)



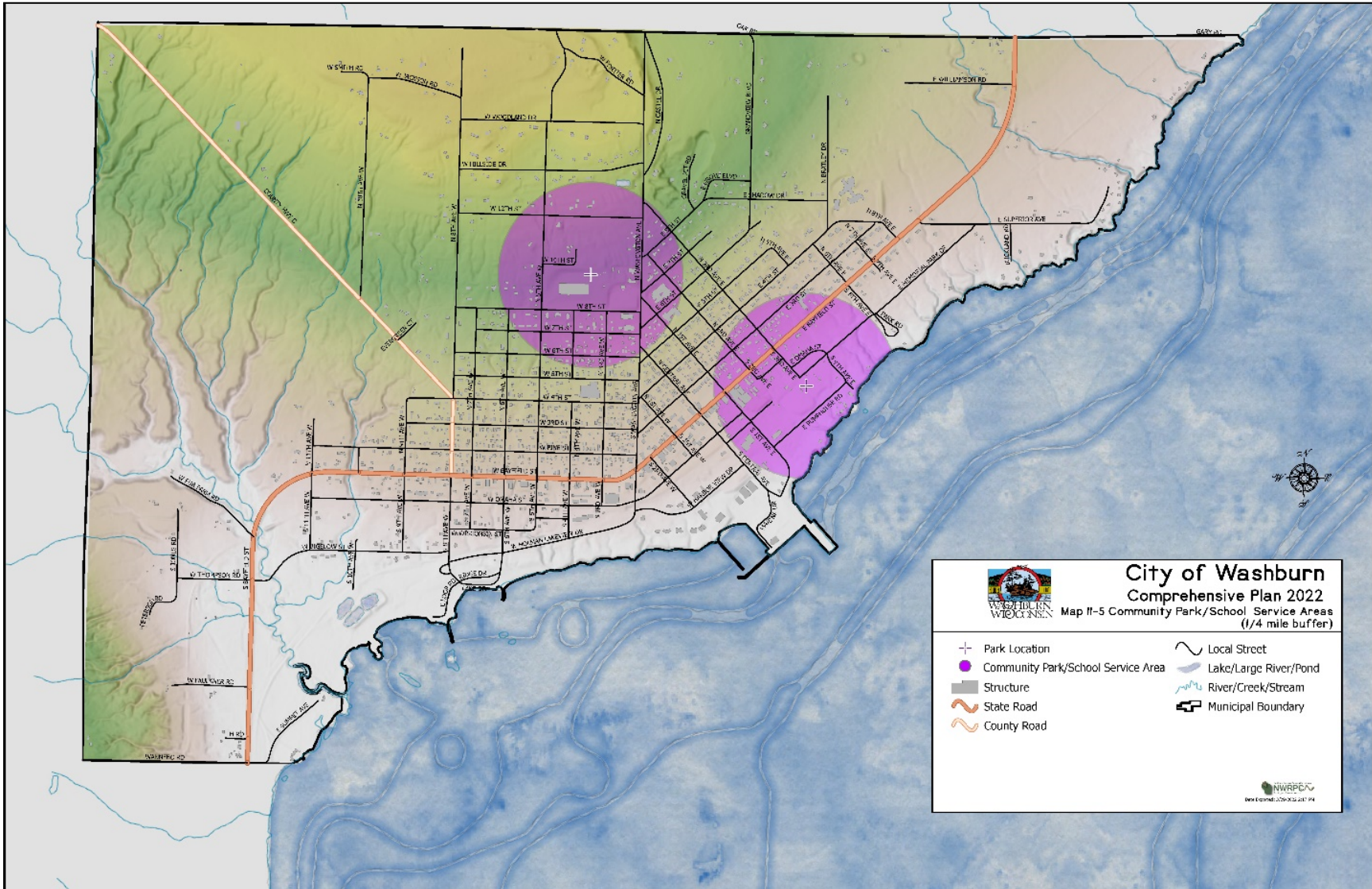
Mini Park Service Area Map (1/8 Mile Buffer)



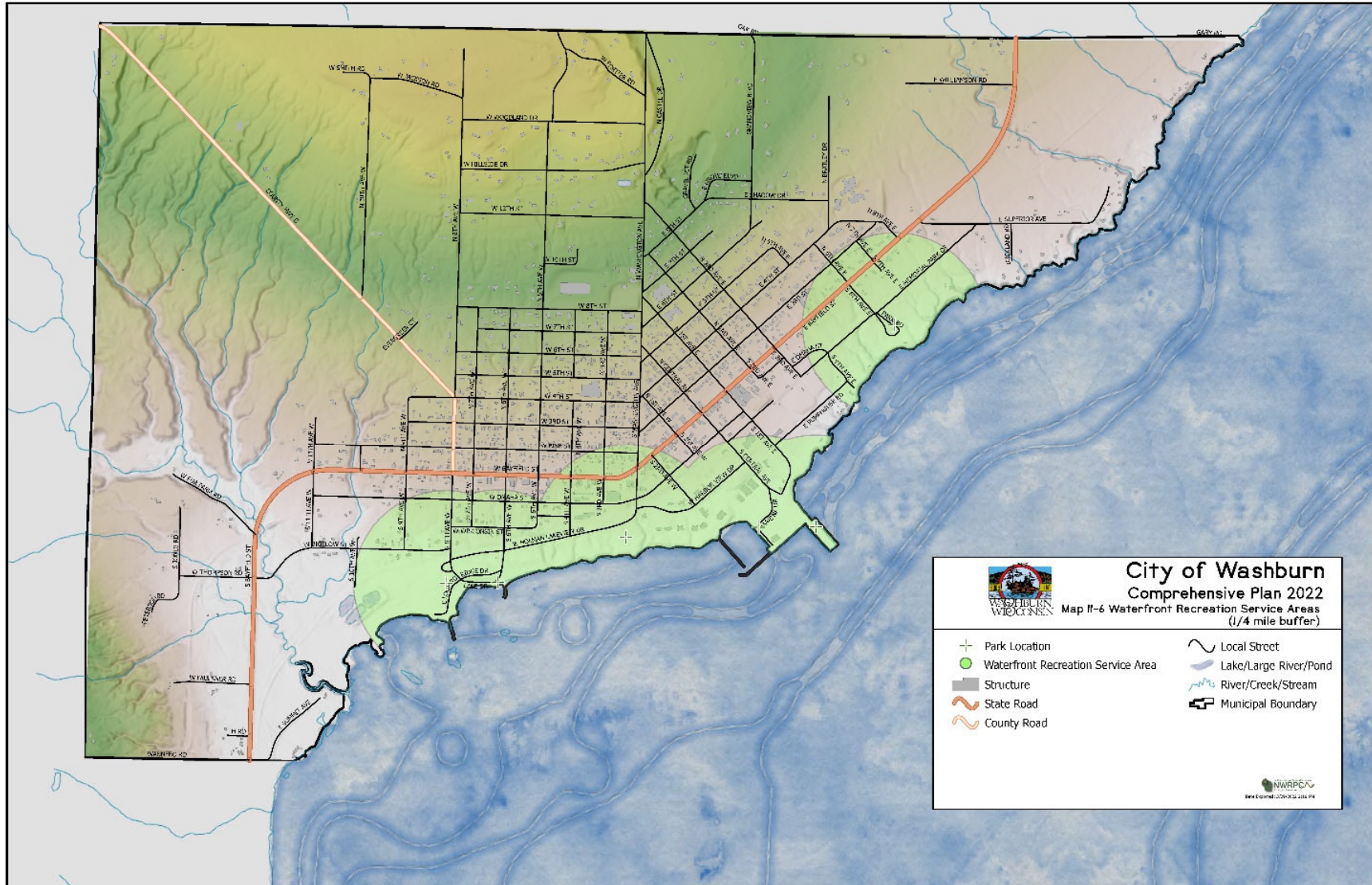
Neighborhood Park Service Area Map (1/4 Mile Buffer)



Community Park Schools Service Areas (1/4 Mile Buffer)



Waterfront Recreation Service Area Map (1/4 Mile Buffer)



3

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



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

To: Parks Committee
From: Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator
Re: Public Input Meetings for West End Park Campground Expansion
Date: September 16, 2022

As you know, two public input meetings were held at Thompson's West End Park regarding the proposed expansion of the campgrounds. I did not take an official count, but there were around 20 people at each meeting, which included the public, committee & council members, and staff. At these events, questionnaires were distributed to gather public comment regarding the expansion plans. Additionally, Jen Maziasz sat outside the IGA on a Sunday afternoon providing information and distributing questionnaires. Questionnaires were also available at City Hall and on the website.

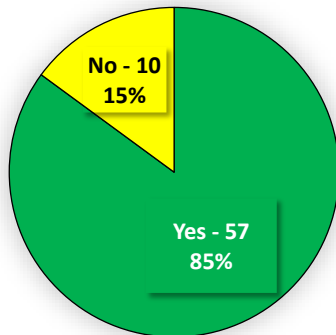
There were 67 questionnaires received, along with three letters providing comment. Attached is a summary of results with the comments received. It is anticipated that discussion of these results along with expansion plans for Thompson's West End Park will be on the agenda for the October 10th City Council meeting.

West End Campground Expansion

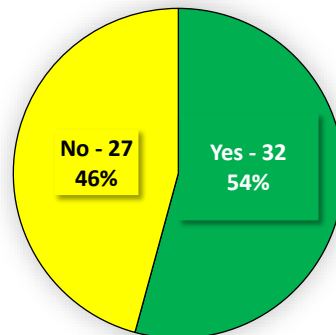
Questionnaire Results

All results

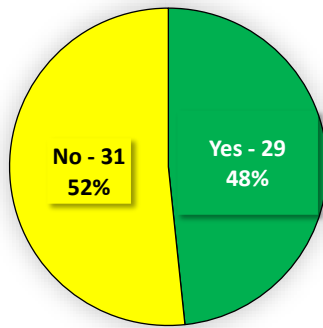
City Resident



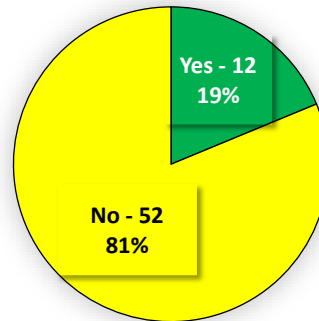
In favor of Expansion



Support Overflow Area

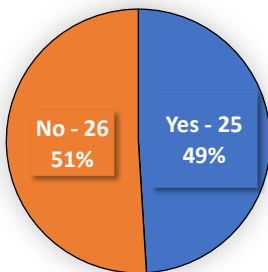


Support Open Field

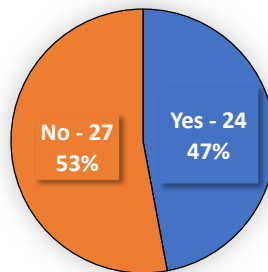


City Residents

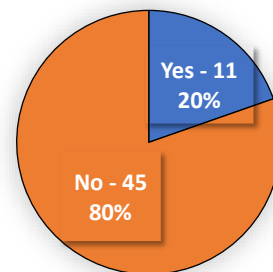
In favor of Expansion



Support Overflow Area

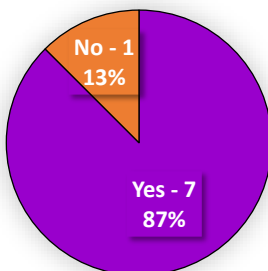


Support Open Field

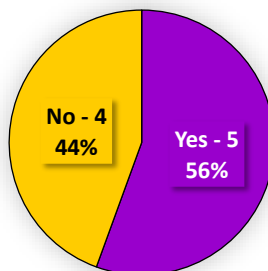


Local Residents or Out-of-Town

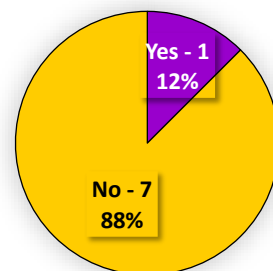
In favor of Expansion



Support Overflow Area



Support Open Field



West End Campground Expansion Questionnaire Results

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Location		Comments		Comments		Comments		
No	Lawton, OK We come here for 2 1/2 months every year (for the last 5 years) the appeal is the space between sites, quietness and view.	Yes	The overflow area has been full with people waiting for a site in the main area. This has been the case for the last 3 years. Expand sites into the overflow, but NOT the main camp area.	Yes	Expand the overflow by adding sites. Keep costs down by providing electric only in the overflow sites. Put in 1 or 2 faucets for water. The area does not need sewer nor water at each site. This would meet the demand, reduce costs and let you keep the daily fee lower.	No	Would be right on the street (temp Hwy 13), block view of Lake for local residents, make this an overflow only not permanent sites for large RVs as you proposed.	Please do not change the existing park sites. The openness and the view are what we drive 1,200 miles to come to for 2 months every year. If you add more sites, add congestion and block the view, you change the appeal of this park. That would eliminate our reason to come here.
Yes		Yes	no comment	Yes	no comment	Yes	no comment	
Yes		Yes	We need to generate some sort of income to help our tax base.	Yes	More income.	Yes		My only concern is we are borrowing more \$ for this project. I know we need to spend money to make money. We're going to borrow money for the parks, the highway, a new fire truck, this council needs to realize we need businesses for Washburn to help with our tax base. Expanding the park is great for visitors but what about me as a tax payer. What do I get? Higher taxes - Less Services, because were broke thanks to the State and no new businesses.
Yes		No	I've been here 19 years now and watched as Memorial Park & West End Park were taken over by more & more RV's. It's gotten so I consider the Council feels the tourists are more important than the citizens when it comes to our waterfront.	No	No, for the same reason as above.	No	Definitely Not! See above, also I question, given the expansion will cost \$500,000, the city will benefit financially. I know it won't aesthetically.	Campsites equal erosion & pollution. There are already too many sites & people (tourists) on the waterfront.
Yes		Yes	I know it's the chief moneymaker for the City and it's important, to the citizens, in that way.	Yes	Functions now as a natural extension of the current campgrounds: is already open to the Lake: does not destroy habitat or the Walking Trail. Can hold more sites than the open field, suggesting a better cost-benefit ratio.	No	1) Would likely result in taking down the bushes along one of the nicest spots along the Walking Trail, ruining the experience in order to open the view. Removes habitat. 2) The expenditure of \$ is very high in the face of an un certain future (gas, etc.). 3) More RV's: :(4) Too much \$ for only 7 sites. 5) That part of the Trail has vegetation important for migrating birds, etc.	Let's go slowly and maintain our green spaces as much as possible IF you were to go ahead with #2, I would think another bathroom would be essential, increasing fees for existing revenue?

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:					
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments					
Yes			Yes		Comments on Facebook: I won't make the meeting, but would love to share my opinion!	Yes		I'd see the area closest to the boat ramp as being the best spot to go with first (getting the RVs sites going will return the investment faster) and this area would be best for the more intrusive development needed for RVs since it's already a disturbed, high traffic area.	Yes		The open field location would be awesome for low-impact tent only camping, since it's by the nice, quiet, secluded trail and closer to people's houses. I would really appreciate keeping the quiet appeal of our amazing lakeside trail intact.		For all camping areas it would be great to see some trees/shrubs put back in for water quality and for privacy/aesthetics of campers. I live in town, so I don't have a need to camp here- but I wouldn't personally chose to camp in a wide open field and feel that we can make these areas more appealing to our visitors with some greenery (while protecting scenic views)
Yes			No		Not unless existing RV sites are re-configured to allow more sites in existing campgrounds. City cannot afford \$1,000,000 with any future profits 15-20 years or more in the future.	No		Unrealistic to expect a profit in foreseeable future. If sufficient demand, private enterprise should respond and City should not compete.	No		Same as reason above. City should not cater to rich visitors who can afford high site rates. Many residents like to see the Lake without large metal rectangles in view.		Would like to know why the City is even considering this, when struggling to provide police, ambulance, and fire services. Who is more important, residents or visitors? See attached figures from 2022 City Budget. re: park operations, which show City is actually losing money on park operations. [Included an attachment listing Revenue: \$231,700; Expense: \$235,3000; Net Loss: \$3,600]
Yes		Summer resident, Winter in California	No			No			No				In the good intentional decision to raise revenue, you will destroy the actual setting of why people love this area. It will become crowded, noisy and busy with traffic, etc. You will lose the peacefulness and tranquility.
Yes			No		Already the spaces are toooo big for the RV's.	Yes		Make more narrow spaces, most RV homes have 15' apart, not 50'60'.	No		Room to expand at regular park & overflow.		The RV's don't need an "estate" just make the sites less of an angle, closer together, you could get 20 more in.
Yes			Yes		I think with a little more planning and creative thinking some camper/trailer site could be added in more appropriate areas of West End. (augmenting where current sites are)	No		I don't think tent campers would appreciate being exposed at the top of the hill with larger RV's and loud generators behind them. You could have tent camping next to the wooded area and open public space viewing the Lake.	No		The open field overlooks the lead of the walking trail, pollinator garden and exercise area. I don't think RV/large campers are suited for parking on that hill. The hill would be well suited for an amphitheater for programing.		The boat ramp improvement are great. I am sure you know you need more truck/boat trailer parking. When you plan this please keep the area by the lakeshore trail open. I hope you encourage the sailing school to stay. We do not have nearly enough Rec. activities for young people. And of course, you need to keep parking for the trail.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:			
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments			
Yes			Yes		But only at the current overflow area.	Yes		But make this into the area for the "luxury huge campers" at the back of this area.	No	Make the open field a "new" overflow site. This way it could still be an open field for parking. Portable toilets could be used here.	Increase the parking for the boat landing and walking trail. Enclose with a 4-season building (like Ashland) the artesian well. Its dangerous in the winter. An enclosure would also improve its sanitation needs.
Yes			Yes		Yes, to the overflow area.	Yes		This space is already being used for camping. Can't see any reason not to develop it.	No	This field should be preserved for use by the citizens of Washburn as part of the park system. Former councils have done a great job of protecting our waterfront lands. Lets not go backwards on this.	The return of Investment seems minimal. Let's look at the other ways to increase tourism and benefit citizens such as expansion of walking and biking trails, supporting our youth and seniors at the Club, etc.
Yes			Yes		Only if campsites at Memorial are designated small RVs or tent trailers (south of ravine) and tent camp only north of ravine.	Yes		Design looks reasonable - relatively low impact vis-à-vis # of campsites.	Yes	Yes, but I would like to see one of the open fields along the West End Walking Trail turned into a festival park w/ band shell.	
No		Town of Bell	Yes		There is a need for more camping in the area. Increase revenue for the City of Washburn. Remember most campers do not spend loads of money at the local food store, gas stations or eating places. They bring their own things in the RV.	Yes		Great views - charge more. Restrooms are needed on that end of the park.	No	Great Views, closer to existing campground.	Add Wi-Fi. Charge more for seasonals, they are getting a bargain for lakeshore views. Get your stats in order to make a case: present revenue, future revenue-projected, operation costs-present, projected costs, complete list of funding sources-public & private.
No		Cornucopia	Yes		There is a need for additional camping in our area	Yes		This seems like the most logical expansion.	No	I think the overflow area is a better option as it is closest to existing camping area.	
Yes			Yes			Yes			Yes		Go Now.
Yes			No			No			No		
Yes					Not sure if it will do the City any good, but at least you stopped messing with Memorial Park.	No		As a tent camper, I don't like mixing tent & RV sites. This area should be reserved for tents only.	Yes	I don't have a problem with using this location. It is not a pristine, natural area, but a reclaimed industrial area. If it doesn't work out as a campground, it can easily be reclaimed again.	Are you sure this will generate more revenue than it will cost?
Yes			Yes		Make use of space if camping is in demand. Personally, as a tent camper I like the idea of the Class A's in a different area.	Yes		But keep overflow area flexible... that is a great group area site.	Yes	Gets big Class A's away from tent campers.	The generally unused beach below the campground would be great for small boat/mast up storage.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:				
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments				
Yes			No		I think we should focus on implementing the plan from 2015.	No		Already camping there and I like to be able to group camp with my family. PLEASE don't take that away!	No		Don't block the view for the people who live here. Is that really the best use for water view property? 7 Rich RV's!!	Yeah start thinking about your community and housing. Please don't give up a prime piece of real estate for 0 tax base and 7 rich RV's!!! Thankyou for letting me comment!!
Yes			Yes			Yes			Yes			
Yes					At this point there are too many unanswered questions about the proposed expansion to be for or against: 1) How much revenue is generated for the city from Thompson fees annually and what has this averaged over a number of years? What are the costs of maintaining the campground and the profit or loss from camping fees to offset this overtime, e.g. a number of years. 2) How long would it take to retire the proposed \$440,892 debt at the overflow site with the average camping profits? Would there be actual profit/benefit for the City (and taxpayers)? 3) Could increased profits be realized by an increase in camping fees without going into debt to develop additional infrastructure? "Meeting the demand" is one thing; is there clear benefit to the City? So far none has been presented in clear fashion.				No		This should remain a greenspace and never be developed for any other purpose; it is part of the lakeshore and walking trail that appeals to visitors as well as local people.	
Yes			Yes		Just the overflow area. Too costly to do more, with energy bills increasing and cost of living.	Yes		Yes, because its already in use or its needed.	No		Too costly. Don't like that location for adding campsites.	Instead of making more camping sites, create pocket parks like Ashland, Ironwood, Bessemer has. Put flowers up, like Ashland does. It makes the city look welcoming & friendly. Washburn downtown looks like a depressed area. Totally not inviting look. Create a bike trail. Improve walking trail. More can be done to improve looks of Washburn.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:			
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments			
Yes			No		No benefit to Washburn residents. Large expense, low income, more traffic and noise.	No		No benefit to Washburn residents. Large expense, low income and traffic and noise.			
Yes			No		1) No benefit to Washburn residents, only negatives. 2) Large expense, low income. 3) More traffic & noise. 4) Loss of natural area & walking trail.	No		No benefit to Washburn residents. Large expense for small income and traffic and noise.	Summary: Do not see any benefits for Washburn Residents.		
Yes			No		The golf course is developing campsites around the course. I would support a tent only campsite, quitter, cheaper, port-a-potties	No		The big RV's will soon disappear. The younger generation cannot afford them. AARP lists purchases of an RV as one of 10 regrets about spending money. Make it tent only.	Why spoil bird watching and the walking trail?		
Yes			Yes		I am in favor of improving the "overflow" area of the park.	Yes		No	It would be a poor use of an important green space in our community. Putting large RV's on that spot would take away the view from the local residents. That area would not feel like it was part of West End Campground and would be difficult for the campground hosts to monitor.	Develop housing for residents. Stop all the spending on tourists. Our Washburn folks need a place to live. Stop trying to be Bayfield, an awful place to be a resident.	
Yes			Yes		I am in favor of reconfiguration of current RV camping area to optimize space and improve character, amenities & services as mapped out in the 2015 master plan. NOT focusing on super sized RVs. Include tent sites and Class B RV's is what will be future trend.			No	What is the cost/benefit analysis - as above.	NO! Let's not take down paradise and put up a parking lot. Where's the cost/benefit analysis? Of infrastructure needs & ongoing maintenance? With current trends supersized RV's are dropping because of fuel costs, etc. Thompson Park & Lake Superior Shoreline is an incredible resource - the proposal does not have it.	I understand the city's desire to increase revenue with this expansion but I feel it may be short sighted. If our area needs more camping spots let the private sector come up with a campground. Continue to raise the fees for the existing campgrounds until they are a match to what people pay nationwide.
Yes			No		I think developing the overflow would be a good idea.	Yes		No	I don't believe the cost of 7 full hookup sites is worth the money. I also don't like the development of that area.	Has the City considered the on-line registration for sites, decreasing "seasonal" # of sites, instead of focusing on 3 months of income through campsites. Is there a plan toward also addressing housing issues, home sites, single family, on current vacant city owned property, aside from new proposed project with county land near nursing home.	

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:		
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments		
Yes			Yes	No	ONLY in the existing West End park premises - No new land location. Use 2015 Master Plan & reduce size of campsites to accommodate more. Do Not cater to very large RV's who need their own water & sewer etc.!!	No	No	This flexible use space can be used for multiple purposes in various seasons A bathroom would be ok to add but not a shower. No more campsites here.	This would permanently alter this land for tourist camping and not serve locals for other purposes, Too expensive RV's will be a thing of the past. Not good for climate change. Short sighted thinking.	Please research the entire cost/benefit over years for the public. Please make accurate projections and explain actual income projected. Please find OTHER sources of income than camping. Another campground (private) is being put in on Hwy C! We need more small year round housing units that city could get rent year round for workers.
Yes			Yes	No	Only if the expansion takes place in the existing campground - no additional land. Follow one of the alternatives in the 2015 plan!	No	No	Only if it is to add a small bathroom for fishermen etc. It is a flexible space which works great now.	Ruins land & view for other uses. There are other ways to generate more income. Gas Large RV's are not environmentally intelligent. Don't ruin this site with campers & expensive utilities! Bad idea. Let this be local residents usage not tourists!	Please research & present actual figures for detailed cost/benefit! Please make the sites smaller & more of them at existing West End Park. A private new large campground is planned & underway off "C". That's enough for our area. Put City \$ into small affordable housing rentals for the workers our town needs who can't find year-round housing. The rent could be an income stream for City!
Yes			No		Campers don't want a crowded area. Maintain what is there.		No	Mixed feelings, would spending approx.. \$500,000 bring in enough money to pay the loan, maintain park, etc. Will it cause more issues? Less parking for boat trailers, lower # of campers due to less space. Heavy use of the bathroom and it's the only area for a group to camp.	It would be a poor financial move.	Has there been any thought of expanding Memorial Park? How many years would it take to see a profit from the campgrounds? Loan payoff timeline?
Yes			No	No	Do we really need it all the time. Overflow happens now and then, holidays, etc.	No	No	If building must be done then it should be limited to this area and nothing beyond that space.	1) It would create an eyesore for our waterfront. 2) It would take years to get back \$ from the investment. 3) The field, as all along the open lake front should benefit the community - that is what is so unique about Washburn - it remains unspoiled. 4) The future of large RV's in iffy - so why build for them?	1) Overflow happens sporadically - why invest in something that is not useful all the time. 2) Covid caused an increase in camping - will that continue? 3) Would like to see some rules put in place to increase & help campers. i.e. A limit time to keep your RV at the site to discourage people who just park their RV's there for the summer and then leave the town.
Yes			Yes	Yes	The cost now is well worth it for future years of generated income.	Yes	Yes	Yes, we live in such a beautiful area. We can share this beauty with others.		The tourism is very important to generate future income.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Location		Comments		Comments		Comments		
No	I live here all summer. [seasonal camper] I would live here all year if there was affordable housing to buy or rent. I go to Bayfield in the winter & rent a small available, affordable place.		I'm sort of neutral. I strongly feel the existing campground should stay as is. It's a rare gem. People come here for its spaciousness & beauty. This is my 5th summer in the campground & I've listened to a lot of campers. Many would go on to Bayfield but for this campground with such an open feeling.	No	Putting full hookup campers & tents together isn't what either of them want. Tenters want a more natural surrounding. Full hookup people don't want tents in their view of the Lake. Also if the City wants/needs more working capital, perhaps the full hookup will put them in more debt for a longer period of time before reaping the benefits. If you put in electric only sites there it will be more compatible with tents. Perhaps an expansion of the bathroom facility is all that would be needed.		I'm neutral again. If you need full hookup, that can be a good location. No extra bathroom needed. The walking trail will be affected but only for a short distance/. It's close enough to the campground for the beach and boat landing, so it can feel like part of the campground.	In thinking about the tents, Two Harbors city campground had a separate area for tents. What about the field above the exercise equipment? Its still very much a part of the campground or overflow area for tents & the field for campers. Tenters are often silent sport people. They may spend more money in the community than RVs & campers that can bring everything with them. Everyone deserves a good campsite, a view of the Lake and a welcoming feeling regardless of how wealthy they area.
No	Buying a house in the city, close in October 2022.	Yes	I think the space in the existing RV park can be organized to accommodate more RV's. But, we can't ignore tent campers.	No	It's prime land. Very valuable, the best vantage point. Should be available to all citizens as shown in the 2015 expansion plan. Committing it to RV's would be an eyesore for all, limit access & generally be a travesty.	No	That should be saved for tent campers if it is to be developed at all. More like the 2015 expansion plan. We don't have to develop all the open space in one generation. Leave it.	1) Tighten-up the camping types & reservations system. a) RV campsite regular, b) RV campsite w/ lake view, c) tent or group campsite, d) tent or glamp campsite w/ lake view. The existing categories do not distinguish these: and tent campers are paying = to RV campers - ?? 2) Trim seasonal camping way back or eliminate. Its abused & the City is losing a lot of revenue. Presently, 16 sites (paid) x \$3000 = \$38,000/year = \$16.50/day - What?? 16 sites x 182 days x \$30/day = \$87,360/ year. \$49,360 loss/year. The seasonal feature is a significant feature that can be changed to adjust to recreational trends without disturbing any soil.
Yes		Yes		Yes	Please include an overflow area in another (less desirable location). First-come/first-served is tough for a lot of people driving hours to get here, but overflow offers reassurance that they won't be stuck without a place to camp.	Yes		

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:				
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments				
Yes			No		The existing campground is sufficient for a city this size. There are too many seasonal campers using the facilities as a summer home. Consider limiting stay for two weeks at a time. This would open more new traffic to more exposure to outsiders to the city.	No		I have not seen a financial justification to warrant spending \$450K when it has not provided profitability of current campground. Don't confuse revenue with profit. More detailed analysis detailing expenses of all park facilities funded by Park Operations. Not just that revenues go into the "general fund".	No		Absolutely Not. Washburn residents have very few unobstructed views of the Lake. This proposed expenditure cannot be justified. This site would look more like a trailer court than a campground.	Not a responsible expenditure of City funds for a small city. What happens if revenues can't support an expenditure of this magnitude? Spend and tax? Aging population can't support increases in property taxes. Money would be better spent in exploring new private home areas. With a proposed campground being proposed on the golf course on Hwy C, this private enterprise endeavor should not be in competition with the City. Please consult 2015 expansion report.
Yes			No		1) Cost!!!! - How long to recoup expense of developing? 2) Lack of park space for non-campers.	No		Motor homes are self-contained - do not need power or electricity. Tent sites without utilities are sufficient utilizing overflow.	No		Cost!! Don't want to look at more motor home campers at the park.	Look at the parks along the lake in Escanaba & Gladstone, MI - Gorgeous!
Yes	25 years.				Maybe - Hesitation that we will become "The Jellystone Campground" city.			Maybe - Desire for revenue starts stripping preservation of natural surroundings & animal habitat.	No		Whenever "expansion" starts getting talked about, trees start getting cut down! Money gets put b-4 nature/natural areas.	People are still upset the trees (hundreds of years old!) that cut down a few years back. The cedars cut out along the curve would now be shading the tent & RV sites on the overflow area. Something campers like me like.
Yes			Yes		It is a beautiful place for people to come visit and is often full.			Possibly - If this can be expanded but maintain some flexibility of use, that would be ideal. As others have pointed out there are those who enjoy having space that is not regrettably appointed.	No		I would support expansion to that area possibly if it was more diverse and not just RV spots. Additionally, explore expanding the current campground should be considered first. Using the open field, maybe some what smaller sites. Limiting or doing away with seasonal sites would help.	Having looked over the proposal that were prepared with much thought and consideration, I believe those ideas should be integrated into any plan moving forward. Camping, RV'ing, glamping all meet different needs. There should be options provided that are affordable for all.
Yes			Yes			Yes			Yes			I feel this area needs to pay attention to maintaining a balance in regards to business development and environmental conservation. This is a wise choice in business development. Tourism is perhaps the best choice.
Yes			No		Raise fees first.	No		See above.	No		See above.	Stop putting burdens on our infrastructure & services. Increase the tax base. That is what you all were elected to do.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:				
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments				
Yes					If there is consistently an overflow of campers, it sounds like you have already spent a ton of money -planning- again. So we should get something for the money spent.				We just spent \$200,000 a couple years ago planning West End Park. Why do we need to plan AGAIN!?!? How much will taxpayers have to pay? How does the water & sewer work with the campgrounds. Is there a meter for water usage & sewer? Campgrounds needs to pay the same as residents. We should know if your planning to hire these expensive itmes before it happens. I feel if you give back to the taxpayers in the form of Senior Center, Rec. Center & a director there will be a much more positive attitude. Bring in business anf HOUSING. Decent affordable housing. Expand H20 & sewer. We can not afford this spending.			
Yes			Yes		Keep the expansion there.	No		Don't think we will see the \$ council is expecting.	No		So I was told we were at capacity at current campsites. Has this been the last 3 years with Covid? or last 10 years? I was told it would take over 10 years to pay the \$1 million loan if we were at capacity. So in the 10 years to pay off loan, City doesn't make any income? because of loan debt? Can't we invest \$ for new business? Why not raise campground fees substantially becasue as I was told people come here from 100's of miles since we have 'the best' view anywhere. If that is so, they will still come. We will be paying staff additionally to maingtain new areas. I love out lakefront also and don't want it to become another Tourist Town where I can't enjoy peace & quiet.	
Yes		a couple	No		Seek other alternatives.	No		Seek other alternatives.	No		Seek other alternatives.	The residents of the city are the #1 priority, not providing more for visitors. Raise the fee!!
Yes		We are a couple answering together	No			No			No		Do you really need to spend the cities \$ in this way? So many things more important.	Borrowing so much money? Is it right? Charge more for exisiting sites if you need it. Thank you!

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:			
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments			
Yes					Indifferent	Yes		Not sure I would want huge campers overlooking my tent site. There are the cream of the crop sites, make them pay their way!	No	I do not want the campsites to be on the east side of 6th Ave. We want to be a city on a Lake - not a city overlooking an RV park. Also, let private developers take on the cost. They have expressed an interest!	We need to consider the impact on local residents of giving over our lakeside to tourists. Also, we need to proceed with caution with changing values of gasoline consumption. If we use the "open field" then we expand further east to the area with trees and then... to the condos. Keep our wilderness wild.
Yes			Yes		Do not support adding additional sites within existing footprint. Do favor development of "overflow" area. Adding sites affects current open setting.	Yes		Overflow is, when crowded, an uncontrolled mess! Its very doubtful everyone is paying the required \$25 fee especially if they are a group. Should be developed for protection of resources also.	No	Don't feel there is a need to spend all that money for something that may not be needed for a future monetary return.	Better yet, raise fees for seasonal users AND get rid of weekly/monthly discounts. Back in the day it may have been necessary to bring folks to Washburn but now it is a money loser. Basically Memorial & Thompson become trailer storage sites and block campers who are coming to visit the area. There was talk of raising fees up to \$65 - raise special fees or eliminate first. Thank you for the ability to comment.
Yes			Yes		I would not like to see the number of campsites increased within the current campground boundary. On some occasions I have witnessed large groups w/ several vehicles, boats, campers, etc. crammed onto 1 site. Should limit the number & charge extra for vehicles or camper or # of users to protect the resources.	Yes		Absolutely need some designated parking spurs & camping sites in the overflow. It was chaos up there the last 2 years. People parking everywhere, fire rings all over the place. Large groups who's paying for what. I like having tents sites. Needs to be leveled though.	No	I think a couple of changes could be made before such a major expense endeavor is attempted. If you get rid of seasonal campsites, more sites might open up & you may not need the expansion. Some folks are there for the long term but many have little occupancy, with an occasional visit & have turned into a RV, boat storage area.	If revenue is a driving factor in some of these proposals, let's get rid of seasonal, monthly & weekly rates. If you pay for the season or month that comes out to \$16/night. Weekly is \$25/night. Charge per night, period. Maybe discuss occupancy of site requirements and stay limits.
No		Town of Bayview Moved to Washburn in 1966, having lived within 3 miles of City Hall since. I would consider myself a Washburn resident.	Yes		West End Campground is a valuable income producer for the City and brings in tourist dollars. The fact that the campground is full during most of the summer indicates a need for expansion.	Yes		It is clear by the occupancy of the main area that the overflow area should be improved to provide more camping area. I support the RV sites, but question tent sites. They should be RV sites as I see them as the greatest need. There are plenty of tent sites available in Memorial Park. With water at sites, fee could be higher than other sites.	Yes	The need is there and as a city asset should be expanded to take an environmental friendly development and an expanded economic improvement.	Area east of 6th Ave are premium sites as they have electric, water and sewer and should be priced accordingly. \$50/night would be reasonable considering the Lake View. A reservation system should be established for them.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Location		Comments		Comments		Comments		
	No							We love your overflow camping! This area is a highlight of summer for us and the overflow always has a spot. Please keep it!
Yes		No	West End campsites already are beginning to intrude into surrounding residential neighborhoods, impacting traffic, creating potential partying/noise, and of prime importance, impacting future re-sale real estate values. No one wants to purchase a home that overlooks or is near an RV park for obvious reasons everyone understands.	No	At the meeting, a question was posed regarding financial gain to the city from these additional RV and camping spaces. The answer was approximately \$14,000. That is very little gain in proportion to the unreasonable and unpleasant situation forced upon tax-paying residents who already live near the current RV park - home owners who purchased homes assuming this was and would remain a residential area. Home values will be jeopardized. And at this point, no one on either side of this issue can accurately answer how much noise, disruption and unpleasantness will occur to home owners who live here year-round.	No	We would ask that the city not give away more lakefront to out of town RV owners at the expense of those who live here and pay taxes here. A beach next to an RV park is not an appealing place to walk or swim to tourists other than RV owners. There are many other options in the area where an RV park could be placed - areas which would not be so hugely unpopular to local homeowners. A beautiful RV park could be put further up the hillside in a lovely green, wooded area, away from existing homes in a specially zoned area. And the out-of-town RV owners (non-tax-paying summertime visitors) could walk or drive to the beach areas just like everyone else who lives here full time. And obviously, the second option is simple: do not increase the size of the current RV situation.	It will be very unfortunate for both residents and business owners+tourism dollars when Washburn becomes increasingly known not as an artsy, interesting place to shop, explore and dine out, but instead as the RV Park of Bayfield County. Tourists wish to visit charming small towns with galleries, restaurants, shops, taverns, etc .. Towns with industrial city/county large equipment and truck storage creating an eyesore directly in the center of town, and RV rigs covering the in-city public beach area? Not so much. Washburn's future potential depends on recognition that \$14,000 in RV fees could easily be cancelled out by the loss of business and tourism dollars to another completely different tourist crowd. The city will get 10-15 more RV owners/campers. Maybe \$14,000. But the hundreds of visitors remaining (with plenty of vacation/weekend dollars to spend) will eventually choose a more appealing, less industrialized location in the surrounding area.
Yes		No	It is too expensive, there is not indication they will be fully used in the future, residents can not utilize the present spaces, the payback is not guaranteed, it will cause more congestion, it is not addressing the needs of our residents but only those of summer visitors, and the golf course wants to put sites which would be a far better place.	No	Not for RVs. Maybe some of that area could be used for tent sites, rather than putting in all the infrastructure for big rigs. This area is a great overlook for our residents. Lets keep it a park.	No	Absolutely not. It will impose on the walking trail, it will be in sight of shoreline homes, it will increase traffic, it will become a sprall of RV's, and no longer a park-like atmosphere.	In the near past, sites could not be kept full. Once the pandemic is over, campers may not come but go back to other types of vacations. Present generations are turning to silent sports, so will gas prices & expensive RV's cause RV camping to decrease when that generation no longer exists.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:				
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments				
Yes			No		Washburn does not need more RVs dominating the precious lakeshore.	Yes		Only tent camping sites should be expanded & only within the current footprint of the park.	No		The 'proposal' is out of the blue, out of line with all previous community plans of the past 30 years, and out of keeping with the needs of the people who actually live here.	This should be voted on by referendum.
Yes				No	I would like to see the city use the 2015 "City of Washburn Expansion of West End Park" final report as the guide for any expansion.		No	Please Use the plan presented and approved from 2015.	No			I think what you are proposing is short sighted. It is not in keeping with the 2015 plan and would not benefit the community as a whole. The community gave the City the insights for park improvements in 2015. Please read and consider all that was done at that time.
Yes			No		It is nice as is.	No		The overflow is used for local picnics and meetings.	No		More RV's will make the City look like a Links Bros. RV sales lot.	The pay back time is too long & uncertain. What if gas prices are \$10 a gallon? Will the demand still exist in 10 years? Conflict with Hwy 13 rebuild?? Its not needed, find more \$ thru permanent housing!
Yes			No		The money needs to be spent on installing utilities to the numerous undeveloped housing lots instead of a tourist driven project. Washburn needs more permanent, property owning residents for long-term tax revenues.	No		See above. Make it easy & financially possible for families to build homes on unused land, thus increasing the long-term, reliable income from property taxes.	No		No, this would create obstacles to the view and also be a waste of money. RVs will lose popularity as baby boomers die off & gas becomes more expensive. Fee above for better use of city money.	See above.
Yes			No		I believe <u>no</u> action should occur until the 10 year City Comprehensive plan is reviewed by city residents and adopted by the City of Washburn. The City has chosen to ignore the Thompson West End Plan created in 2015.	No		The City is already receiving \$8,000/year without improvements. It would eliminate the group camping area.	No		Until a comprehensive plan - with goals defined & community input respected - no development should occur.	If the City Council is interested in creating a revenue stream, the City needs to find a project with a better return on investment (10 year?!? Too long) and take into consideration current & projected camping trends. The City also should know what the campgrounds are actually costing (labor, benefits, equipment, materials) instead of assuming expansion will yield money for the City.
Yes			Yes		There is clearly a need. The campgrounds are full most of the summer.	Yes		In 140 years of Washburn history, no one has made better use of this spot. No businesses, no parks, no native plant emphasis...	No		Use existing overflow!	

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:				
Yes	No	Location	Yes	No	Comments	Yes	No	Comments				
Yes			No		1) Estimated pay-off for the project is ten years. If the City is going to re-develop what is now open space it should provide a guaranteed return on investment in less than half a generation. 2) One implied goal of this project is to bring in even more tourist and increase traffic at local businesses. Businesses that can't find employees and employees who can't find places to live in town.	No		Encroachment on declinated wetlands, limiting use of the area that has the best view of the Lake to RV campers only all summer long. Elimination of boat trailer parking.	No		Encroachment on Walking Trail, RV campers will take over one of the few beaches that are now used by city residents as opposed to campers.	This proposed provides no significant benefit to city residents, If the City is going to develop or re-develop space that is now open it should provide direct benefits to a majority of city residents. 2015 Thompson West-End Plan should direct development especially the community center.
Yes			No		Thompson's is already an eyesore. I try to avoid that part of the lakefront.	No		Expansion for camping or parking?? Eitherway, I don't support any further development within 3 blocks of the shoreline. Even parking areas will compact the soil and do ecological harm.	No		This area should be converted to forest or native prairie.	Further development near the waterfront will cause more surface runoff and soil compaction. We need to be conducting ecological restoration, not adding to the problem. I understand development makes the city money, but so does grant writing. If you do develop, please leave buffers of native vegetation between the sites and water resources. Slow surface flow by making water channels curvey.
Yes			No		You are losing a battle against a wetland.	Yes		It's already pretty much established, might as well. But please stop cutting down the cedar. Also, get some native plants in the drainage area.	No		I have concerns that more trees will be cut down for view. Also have concerns about stormwater run off.	This lakeshore is already heavily degraded and I feel these actions will only lead to further negative impacts. I wouldn't mind seeing mitigation being done around these sites. Please consider green infrastructure and native plantings to increase resilience.
No	Town of Washburn	Yes		Yes	I agree with the campsite expansion in the "overflow" area. (There is already camping there and should continue.) I oppose camping sites in the "field" area. This is an interruption of the precious green space that Washburn has.	Yes		There is not any interruption of "green space". There is already camping in this area. I support sites here.	No		I am opposed to proposed expansion. Washburn is blessed (among other Lake Superior communities) to have a natural green buffer that is continuous and hosts native flora and fauna. Habitat segmentation should be avoided. Once this expansion goes through it would be extremely difficult to get it back. "Pave paradise, put up a parking lot!" This green space is Washburn's gem!	Do not start hacking it up for some short term dollars. If folks are really coming here to enjoy the Lake and its surroundings - increase the camping fees - campers will pay for the experience of lake solitude!

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Location		Comments		Comments		Comments		
No	Texas. We try to spend our summers in West End Park, this year the plan is about five months.	Yes	Lets be clear about expansion, we are talking about the Overflow Area and the Open Field, NOT the existing campground as in the 2015 plan.	No	The proposed sites are not long enough. The tent sites ruin the view. The Overflow Area has the best view in the campground. Many people camp up there just for the view and accept the lack of services. This would be the best location for the high dollar sites. The sites should be diagonal pull-thru and have water and sewer, forget the bathroom because it is unnecessary with water and sewer and only attracts people who should not be using it. The tent sites should be in the Open Field location. A rough measurement of the Overflow Area from Goggle Earth is about 360 feet by 100 feet. The road could be moved closer to the lake and the brush could be cut back to the trees to enlarge the site. Maybe seven pull-thru sites could be put in this area. A back road is necessary for pull-thru sites. I haven't drawn this out as my tools are somewhat limited in the trailer.	No	This would be a good location for the oveeflow and tent sites. The Open Field site looks big enough for pull-thru overflow sites. Pull-thru sites are always preferred over back-in sites. A motorhome towing a vehicle with the usual four wheels down on the ground can't use a back-in site without first disconnecting the vehicle as it can only be backed about two feet before the steering and hitch get jammed. Look at motorhomes towing on the highway and you see at least 50% are towing a vehicle four wheels down.	Find a design firm that knows how to design a campground. If you want more income from the campground raise the rates. I think the seasonal rate is way too low. Yes, they are paying for every night in the season, but at about \$17 per night. Now with the campground fuller you loose income on those sites. Brown sites are \$30. Seasonal sites have the advantage of always having their site, even when the campground is full and they should pay for this advantage. I would set the seasonal rate at \$4,000. I have no accurate information on the occupancy of the sites, but a little work with a spreadsheet could be enlightening. You have to be very careful about comparing the West End Campground to Kreher RV Park in Ashland as they have water at the campsites. You shouldn't have to have a 200 foot water hose to camp in a campground. Another thought on the Overflow Area, if it was rebuilt with pull-thru sites to ensure a good view of the lake we would pay \$10,000 for a seasonal site up there.
Yes		Yes	In general, I am supportive. However, not in the natural area of the walking trail and underdeveloped lakeshore. If this area is to be developed, it should be in a way that complements nature and is open to everyone. City should carefully think about cost outlay for related to return.	Yes	If expansion is to be moved forward by City Council and deemed to rprovide revenue sooner than later (10 yrs is too long), it would be better to expand/enhance an area that is already being used for camping. This area has nominal natural resource value and is also closer to teh other campsites. And it wpould not be in everyone's viewshed as you go to the lake. Also, do not construct a bathroom. RV's should be hooked into sanitary lines.	No	No, I do not support this! This area is a natural area and closer to the Lake. It provides habitat even as an open field. It is within the viewshed from Holman Lake Dr. and the Lake. RV presence would change the aestetics of the Walking Trail as it would have a visual and sound impact. It is also not conducive to the vision of the area.	The City should move carefully consider how much it will be to develop an area and when they would see return pn investment. The lakeshore is an tremendous asset and it is so nice to see a natural area that you don't see in other nearby cities like Ashland or Bayfield. Also, will RV visitors spend much money when visiting? Many RV owners are older and may not have extra funding to spend but would be thrilled to have "cheep rent" for the summer. The City should think carefully about what it would charge per night if sites are developed.

City Resident?		In favor of expanding campsites?		Support expansion Overflow Area?		Support expansion Open Field?		Additional Comments:
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Location		Comments		Comments		Comments		
No	St.Paul	No	There are plenty of campsites right now. No need for expansion.	No	You've already asked this question and it was answered in thr 2015 report referenced on your website. From page 12: "A. Camping - included the text. From page 17: "VIII. Campground Study Skectches - included the text.	No	You've already asked this question and it was answered in thr 2015 report referenced on your website. From page 12: "A. Camping - included the text. From page 17: "VIII. Campground Study Skectches - included the text.	<i>Comments have been included with the attached additional comments.</i>

West End Campground Expansion – Additional Comments

To alleviate the overflow overcrowding.

- 1) Cut the number of seasonal sites in half, from 17 to 8 or 9. Many of these sites are hardly used. These people park their rigs & leave them and only use them on weekends if that. These sites have become a cheap way to have a summer cabin without the need to buy land & maintain it. They don't have to pay taxes on their "cabin" or upkeep of the property. Will this result in more, less or break even to the city? Only time will tell. But it would open up more campsites for the populous.
- 2) Create an area strictly for tent users. The open lawn in front of the premium sites I believe would be best served. There is a question about if that area is restricted by the DNR due to its proximity to the lakeshore. But, to create this would be a simple job. Make a loop road of class 5 gravel. Make parking spaces for cars only out of the same class 5. Make tent pads out of class 5. Add picnic tables & fire rings. In the future add a shower & bath house. No need for electric or cable at each site. If electric is needed for phone charging, maybe a station in the bathhouse area.
- 3) Sites 18 & 33 (pull thru) need to be designated as premium sites (\$40). We've been to many campgrounds where the cost of a pull thru is higher than a back in site. In one case at a casino campground the pull thru sites are double the cost of a back in.
- 4) Lease overflow as is. By restricting number of campers in overflow we lose money & people camping in West End. If they can't find a place in Washburn, they try someplace else & city businesses lose them as a customer.

We enjoy camping at West Thompson Campground. We were told there are plans to put in 5 electric campsites in the overflow area. Please, please, don't do that. Leave it as is. Every time we come from Grand Rapids, MN to camp, we find all the electric sites are unavailable because they are already being used. If the overflow area becomes 5 electric sites, the chances of us getting an open site becomes very unlikely. The overflow site, as it is, allows for more than 5 campers.

I hope you do expand the number of camping sites but don't put in electric in the overflow. It is getting more difficult to find places to camp. We see sites without campers on them night after night. We wish your policy would require for non-seasonal; campers to occupy the site every night. It is a shame to see sites unoccupied not available to be used. Thank you.

Tony Janisch, Jennifer Maziasz, all Council members, Mayor,

Glad to read the article in the paper. Tourism is growing and a big demand for RV's and campsites. We are overflowing. You have to turn the daring vision into a reality. Success is making, choices depends on the understanding the choices of others. We go down for friends to

get a site and over & over have a hard time – “full”. More and more are seasonal. They spend money – groceries, gas, restaurants, laundry, etc. Three years in a row we have friends who come from Phoenix, AZ., we get them a site. This year we couldn’t, they had to go to Bayfield for two weeks & drive to Washburn almost every day.

Check out Bayfield, they are expanding and even building 5 cabins and a pond: Beautiful. Then they went to Houghton Michigan a month. Came back, we couldn’t get them a site, they have a very large RV & pull a jeep car. So we had them park at our house for 4 days and then they left for the State of Washington. They came from May 1st to Sept. 1st.

You have to spend money to make money. You can’t expand into the sites at Thompson Park as people have boats, atv, etc. and they need room. We have beautiful space where you plan is wonderful, what a view & the land is just doing nothing. Been in Washburn over 70 years and this is the best idea I’ve seen in a long time.

Additional Comments from Last Questionnaire

I have been coming to the Chequamegon Bay area for forty years to work, recreate and visit. Though I am not a permanent resident I feel strongly connected to the community here and the outlying environment. I love Washburn above all for many reasons but perhaps the most attractive feature is the substantial amount of undeveloped land abutting Lake Superior. Its value is priceless and pales in comparison to any dollar amount associated with any short term gains for the enjoyment of a select few. Over the past few years I have observed a significant degradation in small things that have taken the shine off this gem of a town. The walking path has been covered in large gravel that is uncomfortable to the foot and noisy to the ear. A small wetland marsh with cattails between the marina and Harbor View has been replaced with a suburban lawn down to the shoreline. The lovely beach by the coal dock has been ravaged by signage (one planted right next to a picnic table) and boulders rendering it less aesthetically appealing. I have been awakened at Memorial Campground by a mower flattening the tops of small rises of terrain down to the sand and gravel and shaving- the tops of exposed tree roots while not cutting a blade of grass. I have seen a field of parched brown grass "cut" with only mountains of dust coming out the-chute. Huge swaths of natural growth abutting the walking trail where I have witnessed unique wildlife sightings have now been cleared. This casual carelessness towards any sense of environmental ethic at the grassroots (literally ...) level does little to instill faith and trust in town leadership to make wise decisions on a larger scale. This is a watershed moment - literally and figuratively. The unique resource here in Washburn can be nurtured and tended to with great care or it can be destroyed with one short-sighted vote. Once it's gone it will never be reclaimed. I am FOR Washburn protecting the Lake Superior buffer. I am FOR Washburn maintaining a paradise for the citizens who live here. I am FOR Washburn setting high standards of environmental aesthetics that others will envy and imitate.