

CITY OF WASHBURN
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NOTICE OF PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: August 20, 2019

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Washburn City Hall

Agenda:

- Call to Order
- Approval of the July 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- Update on West End Park Boat Ramp
- Discussion & Recommendation on Walking Trail Maintenance Plan
- Future Topics
- Adjournment

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

July 16, 2019

CITY OF WASHBURN PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING

5:30 PM Washburn City Hall

Present: Members: Jennifer Maziasz (council rep), Jamie Cook, Erika Lang, Wendy Reese, Kyleleen Bartnick

Municipal Personnel: City Administrator Scott Kluver, City Administrative Assistant Tony Janisch, Public Works Director Bob Anderson, Mayor Richard Avol

Excused Absence(s): None

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Maziasz.

Approval of the May 21, 2019 Parks Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve minutes by Reese; second by Cook. Motion carried unanimously and minutes were approved.

Discussion on 2020 Budget Preparation Timeline

Maziasz reminded the committee that general fund operating budget and capital expense requests must be submitted to the City Administrator by 8:00 am on July 22, 2019. As such, now is the time for the committee to discuss and decide upon budget requests. The Finance Committee will meet between September 10 and October 11, and report their recommendations to City Council on October 14. Park Committee members reflected on the need to continue to complete campground improvements at Memorial Park and Thompson's West End. Motion made by Bartnick to request that the City's Finance Committee allocate \$7,500 from the park budget for campground Improvements; second by Cook. Motion carried unanimously.

Update on Little League Baseball Field Construction

Bob Anderson gave an update on the construction. Ashland Daily Press recently published an article featuring the project which was great. The field is being constructed at the north end of the complex. The topsoil is in and has been seeded. Approximately \$15,000 is still needed to get everything up and running as the goal is to construct a regulation little league field. Anderson has met with some potential donors and will continue to follow-up. There may be an opportunity to receive a donation from Bremer Bank, and a donation of labor from the Washburn high school to build the dugouts.

Discussion & Recommendation on Dog Park Location and Plan Details

Committee members reminded everyone that the Parks Committee has been discussing a potential dog park and possible locations for several months. Several locations have been evaluated, all on City property. At the May meeting, local residents attended the meeting and

stated that they were concerned about a dog park being constructed near the cemetery for several reasons. Due to this, the Committee has continued to evaluate additional sites. Reese presented a handout outlining the dog park proposal. A small group of people evaluated a couple of city properties and have concluded that a site adjacent to the walking trail is what they prefer. This would be preferred because it is best to locate a dog park within walking distance of center of town so it is part of the community, and it could also be incorporated with the walking trail.

They presented the following information:

- They propose to use one of the sites along the walking trail that was mowed last year.
- For funding, there are grants available. Additionally, the City could ask for an annual fee from users. Approximately \$27,000 would be needed for a one-acre size lot.

Motion made by Bartnick to open the floor; second by Cook. Motion carried unanimously.

Supporters of the dog park made the following additional comments:

- Fencing could be a combination of wood and steel to blend in better with the natural environment of the lakefront.
- The dog park could set off of the road and trail a bit to provide more of a buffer.
- A shade structure could be constructed if there aren't any existing trees to work with.
- An article titled Public Health Considerations Associated with the Location and Operation of Off-Leash Dog Parks was shared with the committee.

Committee members discussed the following next steps:

- Survey community residents to learn if the majority of the residents support a dog park and if so, what location. A survey could be created and shared via the City's Facebook page and via the Washburn Chamber of Commerce. A conceptual drawing should also be shared, as well as marking the potential areas on the sites. Reese and Bartnick will work on the survey design, and City staff will share the survey with residents to participate. Lang and Reese will meet to mark the potential areas on the sites. Survey results will be brought to the Parks Committee, hopefully in August if results have come in. Motion made by Cook to close the floor; second by Bartnick. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Recommendation on Walking Trail Maintenance Plan

Lang and Bartnick continue to work on updating the walking trail maintenance-management plan. They will have a draft for the Parks Committee to review at the August meeting. The Parks Committee members brainstormed additional people to ask to review the draft plan beyond the community's natural resource experts. Additional people who might be interested could be the Harbor Commission, Vicki Alldritt, Becky Brown, Karen Kozie, and the Washburn Business Alliance. Lang and Bartnick also presented the recommendation for the City to pursue a Wisconsin Coastal Management Program grant to help begin to implement the plan. Grant proposals are due in early November. For a project totaling less than \$50,000, the applicant would have to provide 50% match which could be in the form of in-kind or cash match. There are other grant opportunities as well.

Motion made by Bartnick to open the floor; second by Cook. Motion carried unanimously. Maziasz shared that it while it would be best to have a plan approved by City Council before grant proposals are sought, this will take time. It might be possible to still seek a grant, if it is for activities that should be implemented even in the absence of an updated plan. To be able to implement some activities, Parks Committee members agreed that it would be useful to have funding allocated from the park budget for invasive plant management and general vegetation management in the natural areas adjacent to the walking trail. Motion made by Bartnick to request that the City's Finance Committee to allocate \$5,000 from the park budget for invasive plant management and general vegetation management in the walking trail area; second by Reese. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Topics

- Communication/Informational Materials at Park Kiosks
- Future Location of North Coast Sailing

Motion made by Bartnick to adjourn meeting at 7:12 pm, second by Cook. Motion approved unanimously.

Memo

To: City of Washburn's Parks Committee

From: Erika Lang and Kyleleen Bartnick, members of the City's Parks Committee

Date: August 16, 2019

Re: Draft management plan for the City of Washburn's Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail

As we have been discussing at the City's Parks Committee meetings for the past several months, we have prepared an updated draft management plan for the City's Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail Area. This focuses on the section of the trail between Thompson's West End Park at the corner of 6th Avenue West and the Washburn Marina. While it is comprehensive in scope, the majority of the plan focuses on vegetation and habitat management. We will give a presentation of the plan at the Parks Committee on August 20.

At various stages before drafting the plan (in the ideas stage), during drafting, and once drafted, we sought input and review from various natural resources professionals who live and work in our area. This included wildlife biologists, natural resource conservationists, foresters, invasive plant experts, bird biologists, and wetland ecologists. We also drew on information from past plans, including the management plan and conservation plan appendix adopted by Washburn's City Council in 2000, and the updated management plan/action plan adopted in 2006. The updated draft management plan has been written to improve clarity, be comprehensive in scope while also being user-friendly, address current on-the-ground conditions, 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. In short, it builds on the direction of the past plans and on the West End Park Report.

We understand that the City of Washburn has limitations related to funding resources and manpower. We are not clear who will be responsible to implement each activity outlined in the updated draft management plan. It is our belief that these roles and responsibilities need to be clearly identified if we are to succeed in managing the trail and parkway to the satisfaction of Washburn residents and visitors. Despite these challenges, we believe there are many technical resources and funding sources available through various natural resource agencies/organizations/individuals in our local community and regional area that we can leverage toward this effort. We believe implementing this plan is doable, and we will be even more successful if we engage partners and people who are passionate about the parkway and trail.

We welcome comments and input, and look forward to the discussion on Tuesday. Thank you.

**Washburn Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail
Management Plan
Draft
August 2019**

*** Please note, this management plan will be updated and added to as needed***

Background

Located on the Bayfield Peninsula in the Superior Coastal Plain Ecological Landscape of Wisconsin, the Washburn Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail is a unique, natural area within the City of Washburn and a place for education, quiet reflection, and exercise. The area comprises approximately 31 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 4,000 linear feet of Lake Superior's shoreline between Thompson's West End Park and the Washburn Marina. An approximate one-mile non-motorized trail traverses the land.

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 continues to be maintained and improved by the City of Washburn with support from local residents, partners, and grant funding. It is an incredible resource for Washburn residents and visitors.

Management Plan Update

This updated management plan focuses on the section of the trail between Thompson's West End Park and the Washburn Marina. It would 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.

Property Description & 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. A diversity of forest species are found on the property, as well as diverse 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.

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 significant 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.

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.

Current conditions consist of (Exhibit A and Exhibit C):

- Area 1 and Area 3 - wetland and low elevation upland areas inhabited by alder, red osier dogwood, willow, and sumac as well as a mix of native trees including tamarack, aspen, ash, and white pine, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*), non-native honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*), common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), and crown vetch (*Coronilla varia*), among others.
- Ravine Area 1 - this area is inhabited by boxelder, red osier dogwood, alder, willow, and sumac, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian, non-native honeysuckle, and common buckthorn.
- Area 2 - previously an area dominated by red osier dogwood and alder, this area was mowed and cleared in 2018. Invasive plants are now becoming established including garden valerian and common tansy. Some native sedges still persist.
- Ravine Area 2 - this area is inhabited by boxelder, dogwood, alder, willow, and ash, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian, non-native honeysuckle, and common buckthorn.
- Area 4 - previously an area dominated by red osier dogwood and alder, this area was mowed and cleared in 2018. Invasive plants are now becoming established including garden valerian and common tansy. Near the parking area, an invasive ornamental silvergrass (*Miscanthus spp.*) is present. Some native sedges still persist. Near the lake, there are native plants including aspen, balsam fir, ash, and red osier dogwood, among others. Invasive plants include garden valerian, non-native honeysuckle, and common buckthorn.
- Ravine Area 3 - this area is 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.
- Area 5 and Area 6 - these areas are dominated by mown turf grass on land owned by the City of Washburn and adjacent to private residences. Closer to Lake Superior and ravines, native shrubs and trees are present as well as some common buckthorn and non-native honeysuckle. There is a small ravine in which vegetation is frequently removed. Near the marina, purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is becoming established near the water's edge.

Management Priorities & Activities

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) 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;
- (b) Preserve, restore, and enhance natural habitats for wildlife and nearby fisheries; and
- (c) Maintain water quality of Lake Superior and its associated nearshore wetlands by choosing management actions that minimize erosion, runoff, and sedimentation.

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.

- 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: sunrise to sunset, unless otherwise determined, and posted, by the City.
- Camping: to Be Determined in the future.
- Overnight Use: see Hours of Operation above.
- Property Boundaries: boundaries will be marked as needed, as determined by the City, through a licensed surveyor.
- 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.

Infrastructure

According to the Expansion of West End Park Report, infrastructure such as boardwalks, trails, and interpretive signage are excellent features to engage and educate the public on benefits of their local natural resources. Currently, several access points, infrastructure improvements, and interpretive signs exist (Exhibit C).

- **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.
- **Trails**
 - Main Trail
 - Width - as possible, the trail will be maintained at a maximum 6-foot width. Mowing to maintain this width is allowed on an annual basis.
 - Surface type - trail is currently a packed limestone, pervious surface.

- Additional Trails - these may be designed and implemented throughout the parkway with an emphasis on long-term sustainability, minimizing the potential impacts to natural resources, and further enhancing the safe and enjoyable use by the public.
- Signage

In order to maintain the natural integrity of the area, signs along the trail will be limited to signs marking access points, historical signs, interpretive signs, and trail markers. Sign materials and colors will blend in with the natural environment.

 - Main trailhead - signage, including a map(s), allowable/permitted uses, and other pertinent information, as determined by the City, will be posted at the main trailhead. Signage at this location may also include information about the property's natural resources, historical information, and partners.
 - Interpretive signs - historical interpretive signs are posted along the trail's length, emphasizing logging and shipping history. Additional signage, especially emphasizing natural resource information, may be placed elsewhere on the property as needed, approved by the City.
- Bridges
 - Width - as possible, the bridges will be maintained at a maximum 6-foot width.
 - Inspection - bridges will be inspected annually by the City to determine the physical and functional condition of the bridge, identify changes in the bridge from the last time it was inspected, and to ensure that the bridge is safe.
- Stairs
 - Design - as possible, each staircase will be constructed with an appropriate rise and run to promote accessibility and safety.
 - Inspection - stairs will be inspected annually by the City to determine the physical and functional condition of the stairs, identify changes in the stairs from the last time they were inspected, and to ensure they are safe.
- Other Minor Structures
 - Benches and picnic tables are allowable, and will be inspected annually by the City to determine their physical and functional condition and to ensure they are safe.
 - Exercise equipment - a set of exercise equipment is located at the entrance to the walking trail off of 6th Avenue West. This will be inspected annually by the City to determine the physical and functional condition of the equipment and to ensure they are safe to use.
 - Waste Containers - one trash can exists at the entrance to the walking trail off of 6th Avenue West. Additional trash cans as well as pet waste bag dispenser stations may be beneficial.

Natural Resources Management

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 enhancing the existing native plant community by removing invasive species and planting native species that occur in similar communities throughout the area. 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. Work should be completed by experienced and skilled City staff and/or contractors. If volunteers are recruited, they should

work under the supervision of skilled staff and/or contractors, and be required to sign a Volunteer Waiver and Release of Liability agreement. The following management activities will be implemented as funding and resources allow:

- Plantings

Native trees, shrubs, and understory species will be planted throughout the area to create a diversity of forest types, shrub-scrub habitat areas, pollinator habitat areas. This will help protect, restore, and enhance native vegetation along Lake Superior, while providing diverse wildlife habitat as well as building climate resiliency along the lakeshore.

Disturbed upland areas that will not be dedicated to other uses within the park should be planted with species representative of native plant communities most likely to successfully establish under current conditions.

- Species selection - trees, shrubs, and other herbaceous plants native to this region of Wisconsin and of special cultural importance will be selected. A planting plan will be written by a qualified natural resource expert and approved by the City's Parks Committee. Additionally, edible plants (such as raspberry, blueberry, blackberry, serviceberry, wild plum, highbush cranberry, elderberry, hazelnut, etc.) may also be a good choice for particular areas and would provide food for wildlife and visitors.
- Timing - plants should be planted in the spring (May) ideally.
- Tree protection - Deer protection in some form may be necessary to help some of the trees become established, especially white pine and cedar.
- Maintenance - regular maintenance activities will be completed to ensure the plantings are a success. This may include minor erosion fixes, watering the plants, reseeding bare areas, and mowing to control non-native species as well as other competitive species.
- Recommended Locations (Exhibit A)
 - Area 2 and Area 4 - in 2018, these areas were cleared of their native vegetation. Invasive plants are now becoming established, and will be removed and controlled at a minimum. If these areas will not be dedicated to other uses, they should be planted to restore them.
 - Area 5 and 6 - while view corridors are valued in these areas by owners and visitors, the lack of vegetation is causing erosion of steep and sensitive soils. Vegetation has also been removed on City property without the City's permission. Vegetation has also been regularly removed in the small ravine, leading to increased sedimentation in Lake Superior. The City should work with adjacent property owners to convert at least some of the grass areas to native plantings, as well as protect drainages. The City should also educate adjacent property owners about increased erosion risk due to removal of vegetation, especially in light of rising lake water levels, changing wave action, and more frequent and severe rain events. Appropriate plant species selection can still provide view corridors while also providing soil stability and wildlife habitat.
 - Other Areas - as identified and prioritized.
- View Corridors
View Corridors - View corridors will be maintained in multiple locations along the walking trail (Exhibit B and Exhibit C). Views of the lake are considered an integral part of the natural beauty and experience that visitors wish to enjoy when

using the trails. 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. Mature trees will be selectively limbed to allow for viewsheds below the tree canopy level without removing valued mature hardwood and conifer trees. View corridors may be selectively planted (using appropriate species and spacing) to encourage plant species that contribute to slope stabilization while reaching a lower mature height. Cutting and trimming should be limited in scope so as to encourage low, bushy growth. Vegetation will not be cut below 4-6" in height and no root disturbance will occur during viewshed maintenance activities.

- Invasive Plant Removal/Control

Invasive plant species have multiple negative impacts. 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. By addressing the invasive plant species along the parkway, the City will help protect and enhance native plants and wildlife habitat as well as set an example for residents and other communities.

- Inventory and Monitoring: The parkway area will be annually monitored for the presence and density of invasive plants. By doing this, an inventory will be created and areas will be more easily prioritized for removal and control activities. As of 2018, the more prolific invasive species include common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*), non-native honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*), garden valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*), common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), and watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*).
- Removal/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. Garden valerian will be mowed each year before it goes to seed. If it is mowed after it has gone to seed, mowing equipment will be cleaned very well before being used in other areas.
 - Buckthorn and honeysuckle - if cutting of buckthorn or honeysuckle is done, it will be done in late fall and stumps treated following Best Management Practices for the State of Wisconsin. Trimming/mowing will not be done without proper stump treatment.
 - Silvergrass - as mentioned above, this is an ornamental grass that is growing near the parking area of Area 4. Silvergrass should be removed following Best Management Practices for the State of Wisconsin or at least mowed each year before it goes to seed. If it is mowed after it has gone to seed, mowing equipment will be cleaned very well before being used in other areas.
- Maintenance and Restoration: Following removal/control activities, the areas will be evaluated. New infestations will be monitored and treated, as needed and funding allows. Once removed and controlled, the areas will be planted with native plants to prevent reinvasion in the future (see Plantings section above).

- Mowing, Cutting, and Trimming

- Mowing will only be used to do the following:

1. Maintain the walking trail width at no more than six feet in width on either side which will help facilitate multiple recreational uses and improve safety.
2. Control invasive species.

For both of these practices, if invasive species are present, mowing will be timed in accordance to the phenology of invasive plants (i.e. completed before plants produce seeds). If mowing occurs after invasive plants have seeded, equipment will be cleaned. If invasive plants are mixed in with native plants, mowing heights will be adjusted to leave as much vegetative growth on native species as possible (i.e. they will not be mowed down to the ground), and to minimize impacts to wildlife species using these areas.

3. Restore the natural successional components of a forest;
4. Create or promote suitable habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered species; and/or
5. Maintain or promote ecologically important or valuable habitat components that will/would otherwise succumb to natural succession/conversion.

For these practices, if invasive species are not present and an area is mowed, mowing activities will be timed to avoid disturbing the nesting season for birds. This means no mowing will be done between May 1 - August 1. A mowing plan will be written by a qualified natural resource expert and approved by the City's Parks Committee before implementing mowing activities related to these activities.

Further, there will be no mowing in the ravines, or along the lakeshore banks or slopes in an effort to prevent erosion and to protect water quality and nearshore habitats of Lake Superior. The only exception is where there is an overlook bench or picnic area at the top of a slope in a view corridor (Exhibit C).

- Cutting/Trimming will only be used to:

- Maintain view corridors along the pathway and near overlook benches. Maintaining these areas will allow for community enjoyment of Lake Superior as an integral part of the natural beauty of the walking trail. Currently, there is approximately 1,800 linear feet of view corridors throughout the trail area (approximately 1/3 of the shoreline of the parkway) (Exhibit B). To minimize erosion, trees and shrubs will be selectively limbed as needed and understory vegetation left in place to hold the soil. If additional view corridors are desired, location and size will be carefully considered by the City's Parks Committee and natural resource partners to evaluate erosion vulnerability and other natural resource impacts.
- 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 vegetation left in place to hold the soil.

- Wetland Protection and Management

Wetland areas will be protected and managed appropriately in accordance with local, state, and federal laws, leaving native vegetation in place to slow-the-flow of water across the landscape, reduce erosion rates and protect the water quality of Lake Superior,

and provide wildlife habitat. The City may also 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 help 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 expensive 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. Additionally, some species can be established through groups of cuttings or individual which are typically less expensive.

If more engineered solutions are needed along the shoreline, the City will consult appropriate county, state, and federal agencies as shoreline restoration activities are planned and implemented.

- **Other Management Considerations**

- Pathogens - Pathogens to be aware of include the Emerald ash borer, Oak wilt, and Hemlock woolly adelgid as well others.
- Source of fill - If fill is needed for a project, it should be clean 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.

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 annually 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, and stairs, 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 the City. Only those that pose a safety hazard to the public will be removed.
- 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 this Plan

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's Parks Committee, 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 Parks Committee 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 Management Plan will be dated and noted as a revision.

Timeline of Activities

<i>ACTIVITY</i>	<i>TIMELINE</i>
Mow garden valerian and silvergrass to control spread	Each summer before it seeds (July)
Inventory invasive species and develop a plan for control/removal and on-going maintenance	2019-2020
Create informational sign and kiosk to be placed at entrance along 6 th Avenue West	2020-2021
Restore Area 2 and Area 4 with native plants	2020-2022
Control invasive species (buckthorn and honeysuckle)	Each fall (October-November is ideal)
Inventory condition of current infrastructure and develop a plan for improvements	2020
Monitoring of infrastructure, trash/debris/hazard trees, and invasive species presence and density	Annually

Maps and Data

Exhibit A: Property Map

Exhibit B: View Corridor Map

Exhibit C: Photopoint Map of existing infrastructure and habitat conditions

Exhibit D: Table of Photopoints

Exhibit E: Photos of existing infrastructure and habitat conditions

Exhibit A Property Map

Washburn Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail
City of Washburn, WI
Bayfield County



Exhibit B View Corridor Map

Washburn Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail
City of Washburn, WI
Bayfield County
View Corridor Map



Exhibit C

Photopoint Map of existing infrastructure and habitat conditions

Washburn Lakeshore Parkway and Walking Trail City of Washburn, WI Bayfield County Location of Infrastructure and Current Conditions



Exhibit D
Table of Photopoint Locations

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

Exhibit E

Photos of existing infrastructure and habitat conditions

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 7



Photo 8



Photo 9



Photo 10



Photo 11



Photo 12



Photo 13



Photo 14



Photo 15



Photo 16



Photo 17



Photo 18



Photo 19



Photo 20



Photo 21



Photo 22



Photo 23



Photo 24



Photo 25



Photo 26



Photo 27



Photo 28



Photo 29



Photo 30



Photo 31



Photo 32



Photo 33



Photo 34



Photo 35



Photo 36



Photo 37



Photo 38



Photo 39



Photo 40

