

Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group (GTUAG)
Agenda
Tuesday, January 10, 2012 - 7:00 PM
GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND

Teri Kouba, MPO
Rick Blair
Dave Sears
Richard O'Connor
Wes Rogers

Dave Lambeth
Matt Yavarow, City of GF Engineering
Dan Splichal
Maegin Rude
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Previous discussion items:

a. Supplement to the Greenway Plan

- i. Progress to date:** Maegin has been assembling the documents and editing maps for the supplement. The largest project has been designing a concept map for LaFave Park at the fork in the rivers in EGF. The group suggested adding a boulder "garden" play area that would also act as a natural barrier to vehicle traffic, more vegetation along the riverbank, and more parking away from the riverbank.
- ii. Next steps:** Staff will continue to work with Maegin for final edits and additions to the supplement. A draft copy will be presented to the Greenway Technical Committee at the March 13 meeting and available online for public comment in mid-March. The final document will be ready for publication by April 1.

II. New discussion items and updates:

- a. Yearend report for 2011:** A draft copy of the document was distributed for review. The final document will be ready by next week and ready for distribution to the public.
- b. Donation boxes:** Is it possible to install donation boxes at some facilities, like the disc golf courses, to give people a chance to donate to the Greenway? There was concern that this could promote vandalism. Kim will ask Kristi Mishler, Executive Director of The Community Foundation of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks, and Region to come to the March meeting and give information about the Friends of the Greenway fund.
- c. Observation decks along the trail:** Could observation decks be placed along the trail for the public to view the water during floods? This could also be used for birding during dry periods. This would not be considered a high priority project because of the need for city crews to access areas during flooding and the limited time the platforms could be used based on water levels. The birding community probably wouldn't use the platforms much because they would prefer to view birds in the wooded and grassy areas.
- d. Boat ramp north of EGF:** Is a boat ramp feasible north of the downtown area in EGF? That would be difficult because of limited access from the road to the river.
- e. Mountain bike trails:** Is there a plan to develop mountain bike trails along the river? There are plans for a multipurpose, unpaved trail system but work has not been done because of the high water over the last few years.

III. Next meeting date: February meeting is cancelled. 7:00 pm, Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at the Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

IV. Adjournment

Submitted by: Kim Greendahl, Greenway Specialist, City of Grand Forks

Attachments: 2011 yearend report

Greenway Annual Report of Activities and Achievements 2011

Did you know?

The Greenway was the location of at least fourteen 5k races and five 10k races in 2011. That's over 74 miles (74.564543068 to be exact or 393,700.7874 feet). That's a lot of running!

Not everyone in the Greenway was running though! The Greenway provided a beautiful setting for three weddings and an engagement proposal or two.

The crowd on wheels gave a good showing too. The first annual Rollin' on the River inline skating event hosted a kickoff event in Lincoln Drive Park and the UND Cycling Club hosted another successful cyclocross event in Riverside Park. Not to be outdone, winter cyclists participated in an ice-bike race in the snow and ice during Winter Fest.

An outdoor movie gave participants the chance to see a movie classic under the stars in Riverside Park.

Add the annual Christmas in the Park event, Santa Village, Greenway Ski Days, Winter Fest, END Iceman triathlon, the North Dakota State Disc Golf championship tournament, Chalk it Up, Grand Cities Art Fest, And that's not all that happened in the Greenway in 2011:

1. The cross country ski grooming route was expanded to offer a complete trail from Riverside Dam to 47th avenue south with continuous grooming.
2. A cross country ski route was added in the campground in EGF.
3. The paved trail in LaFave Park was rerouted to replace the damaged lower trail and offer spectacular views of the Red and Red Lake Rivers without closing during minimal flooding.
4. A mile marking, 911 emergency and orientation sign system was installed along the loop trail.
5. The Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group conducted a trail user visual survey to document summertime trail use.
6. The Greenway website was updated to provide better access to greenway related information. Changed the website address to www.greenwayggf.com.
7. The policy on ADA trail accessibility requirements for Other Power Driven Mobility Devices was reviewed.
8. There were several requests from greenway users to consider improvements to the system. The Greenway Technical Committee heard requests from the public for ordinance changes to allow the use of electric assisted bicycles on trails for all users, installation of bluebird boxes, a historical plaque at the railroad bridge, and installation of an orienteering course, installation of a boat house along the river and the installation of a disc golf course in Riverside Park.
9. Work began to publish an update to the original Greenway Plan.
10. Our friends at Xcel Energy and the UND Law School Environmental Law group donated funding to host tree planting projects in the Greenway.
11. Once again the Red River State Recreation Area campground broke campership records, even though opening was delayed because of high water and a state government shutdown kept the campground closed for a while in July.
12. A new campground and gathering area was installed in the campground.
13. The deck area of Riverside Pool was expanded to allow for more seating area. Attendance at both Riverside and the East Grand Forks pools remained steady from 2010, despite a cool start to the season.

14. Volunteers worked tirelessly to rebuild the Sherlock Forest playground after a fire destroyed the original structure.
15. Gladwin Lynne retired as manager of the campground. Catherine Johnson has been hired as the new manager.