

**Greenway Technical Committee (GTC) meeting**  
**10 AM - Tuesday, January 17, 2023**  
**Icon Sports Center, 1060 47th Ave South**  
**Blue Line Club Meeting room**  
**Grand Forks, ND**  
**Meeting Notes**

Reid Huttunen, Chair  
George Hellyer, GF Park District  
Brad Durick  
Steve Hell, GF Park District  
Chad Cutshaw, GF Fire Depart.  
Catherine Johnson, MN DNR

Stephanie Halford, MPO  
Sgt. Kris Brown, GF Police Depart.  
Dr. Laura Munski, Dakota Science Center  
Theresa Flitter, City of GF  
Lori Martinez, City of GF  
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

**I. Old Business**

- A. Lighting policy:** The goal is to adopt a policy for future requests for lighting outside high-use recreation areas. The policy is not binding but will provide consistency for the committee.

Lighting curfew. The preference is to only have lights on until park closing, but the lights at the campground restrooms and park parking lots are on all night. The statement "Should be "would suffice as a disclaimer in those situations. Keep "In other recreational areas."

Appeals. The committee agreed that a decision could be appealed to the corresponding city council for consideration.

The solar lights in the dog park are only on for about an hour every day. They don't come on after a few cloudy days to conserve battery power. This schedule is handled by a third party and not the city of GF.

- B. Snowmobile route extension request update:** A PowerPoint update will be presented to the GF City Council tonight. The presentation highlights what the Greenway is, information on noise ordinances, traffic ordinances, and maps of the proposed trail. There will also be an overview of the potential next step for considering the proposal. That list includes reviewing the current ordinances and forming an advisory group of stakeholders. There has been no determination of the composition of that group, but it will include representatives from both communities because any decision made in GF will impact EGF.
- C. 2022 Annual report:** The committee reviewed the draft. Any edits or comments should be sent to Kim by the end of next week. Is it the 20th or 25th birthday of the Greenway? The design phase started in 1998, but the first phase opened in 2003. It was decided to go with 25 years to stay consistent with the 1997 flood.

**II. New Business: None**

III. **Bicycle, Pedestrian & Greenway, Advisory Group update:** No report.

IV. **Other**

- A. **Bicycle Friendly Community application:** A committee is working on the 2023 Bicycle Friendly Community award application. GGF has bronze status, and the goal is to rise to the silver level. The application is due February 15.

V. **Agency updates**

- A. **City of EGF: Plans are coming together for the upgrades at LaFave Park.** Wiseth Smith and Nolting have done the preliminary plan, and Reid hopes to bid out the project this winter.
- B. **GF Park District:** All the rinks are open. Skis, snowshoes, skates, and sleds are available for use, free of charge, at the warming houses in Riverside and Lincoln Drive Park.
- C. **City of GF:** Work continues on the plans to revise the area around the downtown floodwall. The consultant is working on conceptual plans for consideration. These plans will be posted online, and the community will have the opportunity to share their ideas and opinions.
- D. **Minnesota DNR:** The online camping permits have opened for the start of the season. Catherine plans to bring back the programming (archery, star gazing, etc.) that was dropped during the pandemic.
- E. **The Forks MPO:** Work continues on the Bicycle and Pedestrian portion of the Long-range Transportation Plan. The goal is to have a draft plan to present to both cities by March or April.
- F. **Dakota Science:** The 100<sup>th</sup> State Horticultural Society conference is August 3 – 5 in GF. Would the Greenway like to be a part of the tour? Laura will send information about the tours.
- G. **GF Police Department:** Kris is working with Kim on a trail camera stolen from the Riverside Dam area. There are no leads other than three photos of the culprit from the eyes up.
- H. **GF Fire Department:** Chad shared the fire department's thanks to the GF Greenway for purchasing a John Deere UTV. This equipment features for winter use and wheels for summer use. This equipment will help fire staff provide emergency medical care in the remote areas of the Greenway.
- I. **Brad Durick:** Permits have been coming in for catfish tournaments being held this summer. The catfish league schedule is now available online. He has plans to take some residents from Edgewood Village fishing the Red River this summer. The MNDNR reports that there is an exceptionally good stock of catfish in the rivers.

VI. **Next meeting date:** Greenway Technical Committee 10 AM Tuesday, March 21, Icon Sport Center, 1060 47th Ave South, Blue Line Club meeting room.

VII. **Upcoming events & meetings**

- **Bicycle, Pedestrian & Greenway Advisory Group mtg:** 6 PM Tuesday, February 14, GF City Hall, 255 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, room A102.

**Support documents:** Draft lighting policy dated 1/10/2023  
Draft 2022 annual report dated 1/13/2023

# Greenway Lighting Policy

Date Issued:

Date Last Revised: 1/10/2023

## Statement of Policy

The need for artificial lighting in areas with a high volume of nighttime users will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The desire for lighting would be balanced with consideration for how prolonged artificial lighting impacts the wildlife in the area.

## Purpose of Policy

Many people enjoy using the Greenway during the winter, especially in areas of high activity like the dog park and greenway entrances. There may be times when artificial lighting is warranted to extend the hours of availability at specific locations.

## Lighting Specifics

Lighting Curfew. This would be determined for each approved request. Lighting should be available from park opening to dawn and dusk until park closing.

When possible, the lighting system shall be turned off rather than reduced in lighting level. Lighting shall be equipped with either timer controls or with photocell on and off switches

All lighting shall demonstrate an efficient distribution of lighting using low-glare, low-light pollution fixtures.

The candlepower of all lights shall be the minimum required to accomplish the purpose of the light.

All lights shall be directed, oriented, and shielded to prevent light trespass or glare onto adjacent park features.

Lighting shall not be directed a manner that would result in disabling glare for drivers, or otherwise result in light trespass.

## Definitions

High recreation areas: This would include dog parks, disc golf courses, swimming pools, campground, and any other recreational facility outside the established picnic shelter areas.

Paved trails: Posts with lights along trails for guidance would benefit at night but are a detriment when plowing snow off the trail. Reflective tape on posts is an option for marking trails, but the tape requires a source of light to reflect and show the post location. It does not provide light beyond the post.

Unpaved trails: Not recommended. The costs of removing or replacing after river flooding would be cost-prohibitive. The impact of light on wildlife and the desire to preserve the natural feel of the Greenway would also be a deterrent.

## Appeals

*The decision of the ----- may be appealed to the-----.*

# 2022 GREENWAY ANNUAL REPORT



## Happy Birthday, Greenway!

It's hard to imagine now, but there was a time when the Red and Red Lake Rivers weren't considered the community assets they are today. Frequent flooding, an unkept shoreline, and limited public access meant many residents saw the rivers as challenging adversaries.



Many thanks to Catherine Johnson and volunteers for finding, cleaning, and marking the wood duck boxes in the Greenway. Created an electronic database.

The options for alternative transportation are changing rapidly, and city ordinances are shifting to accommodate these new devices. Law enforcement from both sides of the river worked together to design an educational brochure about using motorized vehicles on trails.



What did The Greenway add to the Greater Grand Forks community?



Miles of shared-use paths



Miles of shared-use paths



New park areas



Boat ramps?





Canadian campers were back after a three-year hiatus, and we were glad to see them!



Butterflies, bees, and other insect friends will enjoy the new pollinator garden planted at the Red River State Recreation Campground. The first annual Parks for Pollinators was a joint project between the Dakota Science Center and MN DNR.



East Grand Forks was awarded \$850,000 for improvements at LaFave Park, but the award needs to be approved by the legislature

### Stay in Touch

#### The Bicycle, Pedestrian & Greenway Advisory Group

Second Tuesday of the month (except July)

6 PM @ GF City Hall

Open to all GGF residents  
greenwayggf@hotmail.com  
www.greenwayggf.com

www.facebook.com/greenwayggf

www.twitter.com/greenwayggf

