

Greenway Technical Committee (GTC) meeting
10 AM - Tuesday, November 21, 2023
Icon Sports Center, 1060 47th Ave South
Blue Line Club Meeting room
Grand Forks, ND
Meeting Notes

Jeremy King, EGF Parks & Rec
George Hellyer, GF Park District
Catherine Johnson, MN DNR
Sgt Kris Brown, GF Police
Deputy Chief Chad Cutshaw, GF Fire
Matt Aarvig, GF Streets

Carter Hunter, GF Engineering
Tyler Manke, MPO
Brad Durrick
Kim Greendahl, Chair
Theresa Flitter, GF Public Works

I. Old Business

- A. GF snowmobile route extension request update:** This item was discussed at the October 26 GF City Council. The mayor and working group could not identify a route for approval, so it was decided to stay with the original route from previous years. This route enters near the north boat ramp and ends downtown near the Sorlie Bridge. A postcard about the laws will be sent to residents living adjacent to the Greenway. A variation of this postcard has been sent annually to residents at least since 2010, except in 2022, when the postcard highlighted the community survey.

EGF approves the funding received from the MN DNR for grooming a snowmobile trail within the city limits but does not approve the route. Catherine has talked with the trail coordinator for the Red River Snowmobile Club. He plans to add more regulatory signs along the route.

- B. Wayfinding sign plan update:** Kim will be meeting with GF Park District staff to design the sign plan framework. Once the plan is ready, hiring an intern to create the individual signs may be necessary.

II. New Business

- A. 2023 Annual Report:** This report is a variation of the newsletter that used to be distributed to residents after the 1997 flood. The original report was to keep residents informed about the flood protection project. Over the years, it has served as an archive for greenway activities. Items should include new amenities, facility changes, pool attendance, and other newsworthy activities. Information for the report can be sent to Kim anytime.

III. Bicycle, Pedestrian & Greenway, Advisory Group update: None

IV. Other

- A. Downtown winter event:** The Downtown Development Association has submitted a

special event application to host a Winterfest event in downtown GF & EGF. The event would include activities on and off the river. They are working with the sheriff's department on both sides of the river for a river permit. They would like to have curling and other winter activities on the river. GF Fire supports community activities, but does not support activities on the river.

- B. Riverside Pool:** The pool is over 70 years old and shows its age. Every week, the pool loses about 30,000 gallons of water. This compares to Elks Pool losing about 11,000 gallons a season. The City has been working with Terracon and EAPC to document the condition of the pipes and concrete under the pool floor. The cameras showed a lot of sediment and rust in the pipes, requiring the removal of the pool floor. This will go to GF City Council for discussion and action when a final report is available.

V. Agency updates

- A. City of EGF:** The city received more funding for the LaFave Park project. An RFP will be going out soon, with the potential to start work in 2024. There is a youth snowmobile race planned for late January in LaFave Park.
- B. GF Park District:** Light displays for the Lions' Christmas in the Park have been going up in Lincoln Drive Park. Santa's Village will return to the Lincoln Golf Clubhouse after a few years in other locations. The Village will be open to the public starting December 1.
- C. City of GF:** There are two homeless camps near the Kennedy Bridge and the north boat ramp. The camps look abandoned, but Kim is working with the GF police to check again before removing them. There seemed to be less homeless camps this season than prior years.
- D. Minnesota DNR:** The occupancy rate for the 2023 season was the third highest since opening, with over 11,000 camperships. Wood duck boxes have been checked for the season, and only three must be replaced. Catherine is working with the UND Wildlife Society to maintain a spreadsheet of locations and maintenance schedules. A new nature trail was built in the Red River State Recreation area. It is marked with green ribbons until permanent signs are installed.
- E. GF Engineering:** No report
- F. GF Streets:** The boulders at Riverside Dam will be moved for the snowmobile trail as soon as the ground freezes. It is too soft to support a payload right now.
- G. GF Fire:** The tracks are on the Gator, ready for emergency responses in the Greenway.
- H. Brad Durrick:** He is working on another women's outdoor event for May 2024. The September Fishing for Life veterans' event was very successful and will return in 2024.

- VI. Next meeting date:** Greenway Technical Committee 10 AM Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 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, December 12, GF City Hall, 255 North 5th Street, room A102.

Support documents: 2023 GF snowmobile postcard

The City of Grand Forks would like to remind residents about proper snowmobile etiquette.



City Ordinance 8-1203 states -

- 1 Snowmobiles are allowed on designated trails only.
- 2 The snowmobile route is open Dec 1 - April 1, 8:00 AM to 11:00 PM.
- 3 The speed limit on the trail is 15 mph.
- 4 Snowmobiles are prohibited on publicly owned land, including schools, parks, playgrounds, recreation areas, and flood protection system, unless otherwise specifically designated.



NOTE: The City of GF discharges treated water from the lagoon into the Red River throughout the winter. This may result in open water or thin ice at the discharge site on the Red River north of Grand Forks. Please use caution if you ride the river.

www.rrsnowmobileclub.com
www.greenwayggf.com.

Report any unlawful snowmobile activity in your area, especially in the flood protection system and Greenway, by calling the Grand Forks Police Department at 701-787-8000.

Snowmobile maps available at



City of Grand Forks - Greenway
P.O. Box 5200
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