

Greenway Technical Committee (GTC)
Tuesday, September 9, 2014 – 10:30AM
GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND

Meeting Notes

Stephanie Erickson, MPO
Catherine Johnson, RRSRA
Corey Birkholz, Options
Dave Aker, EGF Parks & Rec

Sudeshna Pant, Downtown Development
Assoc.
Stacey Majkrzak, Downtown Development
Assoc.

I. Old Business

A. Special project request updates

- i. **Boathouse & river access:** Kim is working with the staff of Ground Up Adventures to provide better access to the river. The current access point is not suitable for the average person. The incline from the trail to the riverbank is very steep and slippery. City staff is working with an engineering firm to design a more accessible site for all abilities just north of the boathouse location. This site would be easier for people to access safely. It could also be developed into a public space for gatherings and river viewings. The location is approximately 100 yards from the boathouse.

- B. **Greenway brochure:** The brochures are at the printer and expected to be delivered by September 16.

II. New Business

A. New special project requests:

- i. **Pump Bike track:** A possible site has been located on private property. This track may not be open to the public but would provide an opportunity to gauge volunteer interest and commitment. A request to the GF Park District is still a possibility.

- B. **November meeting – falls on Veterans Day:** The meeting will be moved to Tuesday, November 18.

C. Transportation Alternatives Program

- ii. **Ideas for trail connections** The GF City engineering department is looking for suggestions for possible trail construction projects. The ND Department of Transportation will be taking applications for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grants for 2016 construction later this year. The former Transportation Enhancement (TE) and the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs have been consolidated into the TAP program. The state has allotted \$900,000 to fund projects around the state. There is a \$290,000 cap for urban projects.

The target cost range for proposed projects is anything between \$150,000 and 300,000. The cost of the recent trail extension project on South 42nd Street was \$330,000. Suggestions should be forwarded to David within the next few weeks so applications can be routed through the proper channels.

Columbia Road will be rebuilt in 2015. There are no sidewalks and narrow shoulders along that road. Costs for a shared-use trail will be included in the road construction budget.

There is a demand for a connection along DeMers Avenue from 42nd to the Industrial Park. Staff is working to secure a right-of-way easement on the north side of DeMers. The north side is favorable over the south side because it avoids having to cross the interstate on and off ramps. The south side of Gateway is being replatted at the corner of DeMers and South 42nd Street (Dusterhoff Service Station). This is an opportunity to obtain easement along that property.

III. Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group update

- A. **Bicycle Friendly Community application status:** Notification should be coming sometime in October.
- B. **Committee:** The group is looking at a new structure to inclusion in the bikeway planning process.

IV. Agency Updates

- A. **City of EGF:** A boat dock will be installed at the boat ramp near the Louis Murray Bridge sometime this week. The City was given a used dock for that area. Crews will be painting the underpass near the pool later in September. The fence at Sherlock will also be finished this fall. Express Personnel has contracted for fifty-four spaces for the upcoming beet harvest. The water and electrical will be shut off in mid-October.
- B. **GF Park District:** Crews are putting up the boards for the hockey rinks.
- C. **City of GF:** Kim is working to create a river authority committee. The special events on the river this year have revealed the need for a joint river authority group. This would be a group of representatives of law enforcement and emergency responders from both cities and counties. The purpose of the group would be to monitor river access and provide consistent communication between the organizations.
- D. **Minnesota DNR: No report**
- E. **Options:** The annual hunting event for hunters will take place in October. The hunt will be held at the Rydell National Wildlife Refuge.
- F. **Downtown Development Association:** Rockin' on the Red is coming September 21. They are also working on a membership drive and installing an ice rink in Town Square this winter.
- G. **MPO:** The most current plan for the Kennedy Bridge project does not show a connection from the bridge to the Greenway in EGF. Staff is working to submit an application for MN TAP funds for the installation of sharrows on Bygland Road.
- H. **GF engineering:** Staff is working on traffic counts and speed studies.

V. Other

- VI. **Next meeting date: 10:30AM on Tuesday, November 18 GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South. PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE.**

Submitted by: Kim Greendahl, Greenway specialist, city of Grand Forks