

# **Greenway Technical Committee AGENDA**

**Tuesday, January 8, 2008  
Grand Forks Park District Office  
1210-7<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND  
10:30 am- Noon**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- I. Greenway Survey update-Laura Munski
- II. Seasonal trail use-All
- III. 2008 Chairperson-All
- IV. Greenway Agency Updates
- V. Other new business

**Next Greenway Technical Committee Staff meeting: February 12, 2008 – 10:30 am  
at Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South**

## **Upcoming events:**

- Greenway Ski Days-February 1 & 2, Lincoln Drive Park Chili feed (while supplies last), sleigh rides, cardboard sled races
- For more information on activities and events happening in the Greenway, visit [www.grandforksgov.com/greenway](http://www.grandforksgov.com/greenway).

# Greenway Technical Committee Meeting Notes

Tuesday, January 8, 2008  
Grand Forks Park District Office  
1210-7<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND

Steve Mullally, GF Park District  
Melanie Parvey-Biby, City of GF  
Laura Munski, Dakota Science Center  
Dave Manthei, GF Fire  
Lonnie Winrich

Dave Aker, EGF Parks & Rec  
Sgt Jeff Burgess, GF Police  
Teri Nelson, MPO  
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

- I. **Greenway Survey update:** Laura has compiled a draft summary of data received to date. Copies of the Informational Education report, a compilation of the comments received on the surveys, and the Qualitative Analysis, which is the response to those concerns, were distributed. The comments from the surveys were summarized into categories for the Qualitative Analysis and Laura provided a narrative about these issues and included past history and other information. **Action item: Laura requested that the members of the committee review the documents and let her know of any corrections regarding the information contained in the Qualitative Analysis and review the comment document to ensure that comments were addressed in the analysis. Comments can sent to Laura at [lmunski@yahoo.com](mailto:lmunski@yahoo.com).**

The survey provides an opportunity for educating the public about the greenway and how it functions. There was discussion on how to present this information to the public and it was decided that and that could be done through a printed insert in the GF Herald. Kim will look into the cost of a project like that.

- II. **Seasonal trail use:** Kim is still researching trail counters. The ones at Scheels & Cabela's are designed to take photos of the object that passes through the beam, which does not meet the need to count individual trail users at a rapid rate. The committee will need to determine how complex they would like the study to be, if demographics are important and how the information would be used. The main uses for a trail count study would be for grant applications, determining seasonal use, and validation of trails in our community. Kim will contact the Fargo Moorhead COG to find out if and how they conduct trail studies.
- III. **2008 Chairperson:** Motion to adopt a two-year rotation, beginning in 2009. Aker/Parvey-Biby M/S/A. Nomination to cast a unanimous ballot of Ann Sande for Chairperson for 2008. Mullally/Winrich M/S/A.

#### IV. Greenway Agency Updates

1. **City of EGF:** Crews are plowing the trails when possible but snowmobiles packed snow before the crews could begin plowing. There has been some damage to the asphalt under the Sorlie Bridge from snowmobiles. Dave has been working on the possibility of developing a sledding hill and other winter recreation downtown. Gladwin did not get grant funding for the play he planned to stage to commemorate Minnesota's 150th anniversary of being a state.
2. **City of GF:** Kim is working with the Public Information Office to produce an informational video about winter recreation to be aired on the city television channel. An informational video on the dog park is already airing.
3. **GF Park District:** Crews are maintaining the ski trails and have extended the trails from Lincoln Drive Park to 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. Trail heads open and available for public use.
4. **MN DNR:** No report.

#### V. Other agencies:

1. **Dakota Science Center:** Pleased that the survey shows people are interested in more programming for the Greenway because it validates what the Center is doing.
2. **Friends of the Greenway:** The group is waiting for information from the Dakota Science Center about their proposed geocaching project before they can decide if they will provide funding. Laura will wait until after the survey is completed this spring, as her schedule is rather tight right now. The Friends of the Greenway are not meeting on a regular basis now.

#### VI. New business

1. **Motorized vehicles:** Dave requested that the committee reconsider its stance on **motorized vehicles on the trail system to accommodate personal mobility devices**. The original intent of the ordinance was to allow for scooters but not golf carts but the current phrasing does not allow for this type of transportation. Chairperson Sande appointed a sub-committee to address the issue. Options, Fire, PD, Aker, Jeff Burgess, Kim. They will bring back a recommendation to the committee by March. Deal with mobility devices only. Request a sticker?

**Next Greenway Technical Committee Staff meeting: February 12, 2008 – 10:30 am  
at Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South**

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

## Informal Education on the Greenway

I would like to see some kind of interpretive center for all ages (especially kids) about how the rivers have been such a big part of Grand Forks and its growth and development – from the paddle wheel days, to river bricks to the floods, etc.

Nature center – wouldn't the Chamber of Commerce Building downtown on 3<sup>rd</sup> St be a great place?

I would like to see more nature related events geared towards kids ages 7-12. I think this would help them learn to appreciate what we have here in Grand Forks besides hockey. Also it would be nice to have some different festivals on the greenway. Thanks.

Special events, more educational programs on nature (plant life, aquatic life, birds, wildlife) in Greenway, educational programs on history. (We could draw visitors in, I believe if we had some history programs.)

More nature activities. Historical things – about the history of GF and the Red River's importance. Also lots of family/kids activities.

Historical signage, benches, alternative paths near the river, wild flowers. Could you put up an observation tower 20-30 feet?

Monthly children's activities during the spring, summer and fall.

I'm not very active, but have enjoyed the greenway occasionally. I live in an area where it was not complete until the end. I commend the placement of some sitting area along the river road area. I would like to see more paths/walking areas near the river bank with benches. The scenic river view on the river road is wonderful and having a variety of path would make it interesting. I feel sorry for the campers stuck with the amount of car and truck traffic on fourth street. It would be nice to have a better barrier (fence or thick bushes) between the street and campground. I'd like to see some nice historical signage in EGF. I noticed a very nice sign on Belmont on the edge of the former Lincoln golf course. This type of information could serve as an educational enrichment concerning the natural area, but also about the historical development (steamboat, railroads, saloon, etc).

I would like to suggest more native planting areas along the greenway...wildflower beds, plant crocus, pustulata, I think many would find them a welcome break to the grass and trees, provide a change of scenery especially with the crocus being a harbinger of seasons, this would also reduce mowing and upkeep of many areas. There are many many native varieties that would thrive and multiply once established...they would also provide food and habitat for birds and other wildlife.

Art events, nature events/interpretation, history of valley events

Nature walks/tags on plants to tell about them

Nature trails – identifying markers.

Self-guided tours.

Weekly guided nature walks, one week birds, next plants, trees. etc. drainage.

More nature educational programs.

Interpretive guides – nature walks. Increased activities for kids i.e. take kid fishing, golfing, fun on the greenway event.

How about a science day for kids, Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts outdoor day for learning, harvest festival with hayride in Lincoln Park or Riverside, shoreline fishing how-to in spring.

Educational programs for young children (3-10 years old).

More posts or signs that have info about the history of the area; native wildlife or plants native to that spot, trivia about GF/EGF; the info could change monthly to keep people interested and coming to check it out.

Nature trails.

#### Public Education Regarding the Greenway

More community awareness of activities is needed.

I receive very little information about the Greenway.

I have never used any of the above. You need to get more information out so people know what events and activities are out there.

Don't know don't use any of facilities.

A map with this mailing would have been nice. I don't know where these parks are.

Better maps and distribution areas. Where can you get a good map of trails and facilities? (Greenway brochure with map mailed out)

I did not know about the Greenway – are there maps or pictures?

I would do more activities if I knew where and when it was, such as nature trails, festivals, events. I would use the trails more if I lived closer to them.

What is the Community Green Labyrinth?

Where is the Labyrinth?

Community Green Labyrinth – Sounds interesting, I don't know what this is.

Where is the Timberline Nature Area?

Timberline Nature Area? Never heard of it – and we have ridden the bike trails from south to north & back.

I don't know where this (Timberline Nature Area) is?

I did not know that there were nature trails.

Where are some of these places?

There are park names I don't recognize.

Not sure where the parks are.

Not sure where all these parks are located.

I don't know where some of these (parks) are.

I don't know the park names.

Not sure where some of these parks are.

I don't know where all the parks are.

I will have to study up on the park names.

I just moved here, so I don't know about these activities.

Sorry but I didn't realize that all this was offered in GF! WOW!

I think that I simply need to know more about the activities that I checked as useful but not used.

More information on all activities; on ATV trails.

Where are there ice hockey rinks on the greenway?

I really enjoy the greenway and had no idea that there were activities there. I am a student at UND and the only reason I knew about it was because I felt like taking a walk through when I was out and about one day.

I would canoe but is it safe on the river?

I would like to know when the park will be sprayed chemicals to kill the weeds. I have a dog and don't like to walk her right after it's been sprayed. Could this be done by email?

#### Riverside Park

Riverside pool re-opened – needs to have a draw to the northern of town needs things/activities for our children in this area

Riverside swimming pool – kids from all over the city could safely access this pool by traveling on the Greenway. It would be a great asset to the Greenway.

A huge plus for all of Grand Forks would be opening the pool in Riverside Park. It isn't just for Riverside – the whole city would benefit immensely.

I think Riverside Park should have a water park (like University Park) or pool.

I love Riverside Park but we need a water park!

The north side of Grand Forks would benefit from Riverside Pool!

Get the pool at Riverside Park open. Foolish to waste such an asset.

Another pool like Riverside built for real swimming – not just play.

Riverside pool open again! And no silly “splash park” attached to it! Kids need to learn to swim, not run on wet cement!

Showcase Riverside pool and park with picnics, concert w/canopy. Open pool fence with walk in; also foot and body rinsing showers.

A pool in Riverside park would help “complete” the Greenway – a warm weather amenity for all ages! Possible a bathing cage in a park, too.

I bring young relatives to the pool frequently in the summer. The pool renovation is too expensive, I fear. Why not explore a co-operative project with the EGF pool (season passes etc.)

Riverside Park pool.

Riverside pool reopened.

Riverside pool.

Riverside pool reopened.

Fix the Riverside Park Pool.

Riverside pool.

A pool in Riverside Park.

A swimming pool.

No Riverside pool.

Not the Riverside pool.

Riverside pool should not be rebuilt! A waste of money! If a new pool is built it should be farther west and south where people have gone.

Fix it up and use it. Have a sledding hill at Riverside Park. Have a hockey program at Riverside Park.

Dog park.

Dog park.

Dog park.

Dog park; which I hear is in the process somewhere.

Plan to use dog park – good idea.

I would like to see the dog park completed and would love to see it in the Lincoln Drive area or Riverside Park area.

Will be glad for the dog park.

A dog park would be great.

I am happy about the dog park!

We look forward to the dog park.

I like the addition of the dog park.

Dog Park – Yea!!

Dog Park – good plan.

Dog Park.

Dog Park.

I love the dog park! Thank you!

I would love to see the dog park up and running. I walk my dog in Lincoln Park a few times a week along with most of the neighbors with dogs and feel it would be a great asset.

### Suggestions

More special events: bike races, marathons, cross-country skiing, event concerts.

I would like to see a Christmas festival in the park. Maybe it could include an afternoon of caroling, promotional events for the ski trails, sled hill and skating rink. I think the decorations from local events are a little dull. (Also sleigh rides and such would be great!). I would definitely bring my kids.

More festivals.

More special events.

Need more things for school age kids.

More art festivals.

School events that use Greenway.

Alligator wrestling.

More music events.

More marathon walks, etc.

More trolley type tours for other than seniors.

In-line skating instruction.

Winter festival.

Snowman contest.

Boot hockey tournament.

Marathons.



There should be more events put on by the Park District, city, etc. to get people out to some of the new areas. I'm sure there are enough \$'s to get the radio station out and about, to have ads on TV and to get the word out. Family events, couple events, kids, pets and parties. These are all ways to get people out there to new newly developed areas.

Another outdoor art-fest type event in the summer/early fall.

Winter family sports on the Red River at least every other month.

I would like to see more festivals/special events utilizing all the different areas of the greenway; ie Riverside, downtown, Sherlock, Kannowski. An event/festival every weekend in the spring, summer, fall – that would give residents something to do.

I like and use the Humane Society dogs walk.

Kite flying event.

Walks with different sponsors that would provide drinks/entertainment/music.

More biweekly family events.

Try the summer fest in Lincoln Park.

You could have a bike race including both EGF and GF bike paths; tour de forks.

More youth and family fishing events.

More pet friendly activities.

Local business sponsored bike rides for everyone.

Our neighborhood plans a "ski night" a couple of times each winter.

Cross-country ski trails on greenway paths themselves, not just in parks.

Extend the ski trails along more of the greenway using as much up and down terrain would be welcome.

Cross country skiing on the bike paths or just off to one side. Offer lessons in cross country skiing, biking, disc golf, other.

Full length of greenway x-country trail and snowmobile trail on the old service road near the river.

More cross country ski trails and snowmobile trails. It's time to enjoy winter activities too!

Cross-country ski trail to the south and north of Lincoln.

Extend the cross-country skiing trails along the entire length of the Greenway. We hope the cities of Grand Forks/East Grand Forks will maintain the Greenway during the winter months and make it available to those who wish to continue walking or running after the snow falls.

Would it be possible to groom more classical ski tracks this year if the snow allows? And possibly hold a few citizen races?

Please, please put some hills into the XC ski trails and lengthen the trails.

I would like to see more groomed cross country ski trails – it would be nice to have the greenway groomed – at least from Sunbeam to Lincoln Park.

I would like to see extended cross-country ski trails. It is possible to groom the bike paths once they are covered by snow?

Cross country skiing equipment rentals.

Cross country skiing with prepared trails.

More cross county ski trails. A trail that could be used at night for skiing. There should be a portion of trail which is lit.

Cross country ski trails in Sunbeam Park area.

I would like to see more exercise stations like the chin-up bars at the entrance of Elmwood Drive.

Continue rides and hikes: Hike the Dike or Ride the Dike.

Occasional stops with one fitness exercise – similar to Volksmarch in Germany; activity description on plaque at each location.

Let's promote the walk/run/bike trail more. Let's do a summer long fitness challenge between GF/EGF using the Greenway! Some what in the old tradition of Altru's Health trip used to be. The end of the program could be the chili feed held each year.

A suggestion: to promote canoeing and kayaking on the river we need better, easier, access spots... not full boat ramps, but small trails with stable footing and easy-to-land launch sites.

More canoeing activities and rentals as well as x-country and bike rentals.

I am an avid kayaker and enjoy using the calm waters of the Red and Red Lake rivers for paddling. In my opinion, these rivers are underutilized for canoeing and kayaking.

I think it would be nice to see better canoe access for those who like to go downstream only. All you really need is an access and a parking spot, no real ramp is necessary, but that would open the river up to more canoe-ers.

Canoe/kayaking access improvements.

Better canoe launching facilities/capabilities.

A non-motorized boat ramp. Sharing space and ramps with fishermen is something very scary; they drink and they don't see me. As a kayaker I have almost been run over a number of times.

More canoeing.

We would like easier boat access – we canoe and it is too short from Lincoln Park boat land to one by Cabella's. We would love a boat launch south of town.

Canoe access signage.

More canoe access.

We need an entrance to the river south of GF for kayaks and canoes so people can paddle with the river flow into GF. Red Lake River needs an upstream entrance, too. We need an easy way to get into the river for 2-4 hour paddles.

More snowmobile and cross country ski trails.

More snowmobiling.

More snowmobiling would be awesome.

I would like snowmobile usage along the river so no one has to ride on the river!

Would like to see the ability for snowmobiles to use/cross the greenway in the winter to access the river.

We need a snowmobile trail that extends from the north end of Grand Forks to the south end of Grand Forks through the greenway. This will allow snowmobiles a north-south corridor without major issues of riding around the city to the west.

I would like to see an ATV trail developed to enjoy the beauty of the river bank. A drop off point such as Lincoln Club House for snowmobiles to get on the river also it could be used as a warm-up station.

I would like to see ATV and snowmobile uses in the greenway – some sort of trail system – to stay on and use responsibly.

A snowmobile path through Greenway down by the river. It would be so easy to do this!

A groomed and marked snowmobile trail with designated parking lots for trailers, that connect all snowmobile trails around GF and EGF.

There should be designated (snowmobile) trails leading to out of town on the east side of Grand Forks.

Snowmobile trails off the river; connecting from south to downtown and up north.

Snowmobiling allowed!

A snowmobiling trail is a must. Riding on the river is far too dangerous.

Would like to see limited use/access to Greenway by snowmobiles. Have access points to the river on both sides (designated route), but I like that the Grand Forks side is (suppose to be) motorized free.

A more concise set of mileage markers and/or destination distances. Kiosk into is not up to date, nor is it easy to follow.

I think it would be nice to have an easier to figure out distances.

More markers locating where you are – the ones recently added are helpful (i.e. 40<sup>th</sup> Ave South).

Information boards with greenway maps and mileage.

We need accurate/completed bike/running walking map and mile markers. Either available at the city website to download or at the city hall to pick up.

Mile markers on the path would be nice.

Better signage about where the pedestrian bridge is. More reminders along the way to pet owners to be responsible and pick up their pet's waste. More places to sit and rest, and place a garbage can in that area.

Place more signage that identifies the whole trail with bathroom facilities, access points, etc. The current signs and brochures are printed too small and hard to interpret unless you have been on the trail already. For example, I learned from this web site, that a round trip trail across both bridges was a little over 8 miles. We wondered before, but had trouble adding up all the small segments. Being hikers/walkers, we like round trip destinations so we can see new things on every walk.

I'd like to see statues maybe like Rapid City has of the presidents or like EGF had on "tour" 3-4 years ago. I'd also like to see an amphitheater for theater productions more a park like atmosphere than Town Square – I love Town Square.

An area that should be developed for youngsters and the elderly on the river. Check the Wahpeton ND facilities. Another attraction – a fish cleaning and disposal facility for fishing people! I would like to see all of the above areas and activities developed and participation in all of the activities above! Most of all, it should be done by qualified professionals who are interested in people rather than self!

An off-road vehicle trail would be nice, but would be very problematic.

Rental Bikes for visitors. Tubing hill for kids in the winter, outdoor theater (simple for stage and power and use natural hills as seating for concerts) and XC races, soccer fields, etc.

I like the bike paths, we use them a lot. There is a need for stop lights at major intersections like South Washington and 47<sup>th</sup> Ave South. This is dangerous for all ages of walkers and bicyclist. A few lights on the bike path would also be nice.

Better paving on trails.

Single track mountain biking trails along river adjacent to main trail.

A singletrack mountain bike/trail running trail along the river. There is not a mountain biking in the area (or trail running trails) and I think it would be a great addition and attraction for Grand Forks.

Would like to see the bike paths completed around the cities.

I would like to see an indoor public swimming pool.

Please keep adding more amenities such as more interpretative kiosks telling people where they can rent sports equipment and discussing the history of the river area, along with more benches, trash cans and lighting in the areas of the bridges and Lincoln Park.

I would love an orienteering course or courses on the Greenway.

Community flower garden, tree and plant identification/gps guide maps, orienteering course, rope tow ski lift, km markers along pavement.

Anything that makes us want to get out and enjoy our beautiful greenway more...

Family friendly activities are always a big hit with my family – can't afford child care in evenings or weekends. Free family fun!

Not much for older people. Horse & Buggy Rides: for out of town visitors and senior citizens during nice weather. To enjoy view – we saw Rome this way and it was a real treat. Have a booth to sell ice tea – soft drinks along trail.

I would like to see a skate boarding area like they have in Fargo for the children (really needed).

Lessons or clubs in various activities (ie canoe, biking, hiking photography, etc.)

I would like to see ice skating downtown or near old Central Park; there is a large gap between Riverside and Elks. A downtown rink would bring more people to the downtown area and would provide a unique experience and a festive atmosphere (like the Farmer's Market does in the summer).

Better in-line skating surfaces – some are so rough it is dangerous. Also park vehicles etc that leave mud & rocks on paved trails – should stay off trails.

Bike rental – canoe rental – inline & ski rental. Water stations & restrooms, benches with covers, picnic areas with BBQ, map boards with present location, ahead, distance, nearest city street, downtown boat dock/slips, tie into English Coolie? Branch off.

More paved walkways and a foot bridge at the point bridge.

More Frisbee golf & snowmobile trails. Allow social drinking permits downtown.

Expand disc golf courses to other parks other than Lincoln. It is great exercise and a lot of fun.

More disc golf locations!

Ice skating trails in flooded low areas of greenway. Trails would be winding thru/around trees. Kept up with a zamboni – see Brandon Manitoba for example of successful city ice skating area.

I would love to see the Greenway extended to the north and south.

Mosquito free zones.

Someplace to register when I use the Greenway to keep usage counts. How about a 100 mile club for folks who run, walk, ski, canoe or combined 100 miles or 50 miles or whatever in the greenway? Have an event to recognize them or have teams or something.

More cycling events.

More sites to access water in the summer. Better up-to-date kiosks (maps of trails – which are finished).

Paddlewheel park, playgrounds.

More activities in all the parks.

Would like to see the bike paths smoothers in the Lincoln/Lincoln Park Drive to 51<sup>st</sup> Ave South area. Tough for rollerblading and some loose grit in patches.

Smoother surfaced trails in some spots to accommodate roller blading.

Need to repave the Lincoln area for roller blading or skateboarding.

Concrete skate park.

More restrooms maybe, pet activities, better access for fishing next to the river.

Toilet/sink facilities – a few.

Rental: visitors could enjoy the bike, canoe, cross country ski rentals – maybe from lower level of Lincoln Golf Club House.

Complete the bike trail/path from north to south – can only go so far at this time.

When walking, areas to sit (bench) as you travel.

Horse shoe and bocci areas.

I don't know if golf carts (electric) are allowed on the greenway trails. If not, it would be very nice if they were. We have an electric cart and two small children and it would be wonderful to have this kind of access to get to the parks, see nature, Etc. Think of all the gas I would save not having to drive to the parks. We live right next to the greenway and walk to most places.

Would love to see soft-pack dirt running trails as in Eugene OR (a big running town), they are easier on the knees and help separate bikers from runners.

Biking related activities for kids.

There absolutely needs to be an exciting (steep, long) sledding hill on the greenway. The one at Lincoln Park is terrible – only suitably for young children, not preteen and teens. With the demise of fun activities (diving pool, water slide) at the Elks pool, the constant relocation of the skate board park, and other incidents, there are very few activities left for older children. Please find a way to provide a legal sledding hill with enough excitement for my teenage children. Right now we use the one by Lincoln Park golf course that is posted “keep out” – just like everyone else does.

Continued expansion.

More trails directly along side the river would be nice though.

Focus should be particularly youth oriented.

Off road trails closer to the river for mountain bikes.

Another Frisbee disk golf course and more groomed trails for XC skiing.

The return of the disk golf to Riverside, the Lincoln course gets really overcrowded.

The disk golf course could use paved tees, when it rains they get pretty muddy. I really enjoy the course with my family. Thanks.

Pave the tee boxes on the Frisbee golf course.

BMX track and horse back rides.

Rollerblading on the bike path.

Have the entire stretch paved for inline skating use: too many rough stretches now.

Better paving for roller blades.

More trees planted along bike/walking paths. Expansion of bike path. Can't get to bike path from Augusta Drive town homes.

Offroad 4X4 park. It's something that other towns – cities do not have around the area.

Service to give rides to senior citizens or visitors on 3-wheel pedicab bikes.

Area's near the river (on the river bank) cleared for fishing from shore. I think several of these area's along the shore would be beneficial to children and adults as a way to walk the paths and enjoy the river. I enjoy walking down to the river with my kids to fish every so often mainly for the quality time together outdoors.

Arts

ATV trails.

Model airplane field.

R/C airplanes.

Badminton courts.

More outdoor basketball facilities.

Bathrooms.

Maybe another bathroom or two.

Bike rentals.

Canoe rental.



Good fields to run and play on.  
Fish pier.  
More Frisbee golf.  
Another disk golf course or two.  
Horseshoes.  
Horseshoes.  
Ice hockey rinks.  
Ice path – similar to the one at the Forx in Winnipeg.  
Lincoln Park boat ramp.  
Paddleboats in the summer.  
Ski jump.  
Sledding.  
Sledding.  
Sledding.  
Sledding.  
Snow sledding.  
Sledding on the dikes.  
Sledding on dike.  
We also use it for sledding.  
Snowmobiling.  
Snowmobiling.  
Snowmobile.  
Snowshoeing.  
Toboggan hill.  
Volleyball.

### Compliments

Keep up the good work.

We love the Greenway!

The Greenway is wonderful!

I love the trails and am excited to see how the greenway will be improved.

I love the Greenway and I think it is great for our community!

I love the new Riverside Park.

Regularly use the bike trails – fantastic!

Greenway is a great asset to the Grand Cities and the only asset of EGF.

It's awesome to have this great addition to our cities.

I really like the Greenway and enjoy biking the course very much. I think it adds so much value to Grand Forks if we use and promote it in many ways.

I don't live in the city, so I rarely access activities. However, I believe that these activities are critical to a vital community.

I think the Greenway is a huge asset to our community and should be utilized as much as possible.

I think the Greenway is a really important part of Grand Forks and a great asset to the community. I see it being heavily used and enjoyed and I hope the city is using it for advertising.

I am a physician at Altru and I live by Lincoln Park. It is one of the reasons I chose to buy a home in that area. My family and I walk, run, bike, and cross-country ski on the bike trails constantly. We love it. Keep up the good work!

What a wonderful addition to our communities! There literally is something for everyone in the greenway.

We like the Greenway and often walk or bike in the summer down there. We also attend "Ski Days" in the winter and cross-country ski down there.

I think all Greenway amenities are important for different people.

All the activities listed are a positive to some and we need to maintain as much diversity as affordable.

Greenway is great!

Great place to snowshoe in the winter.

Great job!!!

Love the Greenway!

Keep up the good work!

Great bike paths.

I really enjoy biking on the paved paths! Thanks!

Do the 8.5 mile loop frequently on bike (2-4 times a week) during season.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to have such a wonderful facilities only six miles from my home.

The greenway is an asset to the community.

We are so fortunate in our community to have access to all of these activities? It is important!

My whole family (grown children and grandchild) enjoy and appreciate the various features of the greenway. We feel it is a very attractive feature in Grand Forks.

Keep up all the good work you are doing!

We have enjoyed our walks on the greenway. It is a great improvement to both of our cities.

The Greenway of Grand Forks/East Grand Forks is the jewel of the community. We have eagerly anticipated the completion of the Greenway and use it on a regular basis.

Great job city of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks. The Greenway is our little gem in the Valley.

I love the two parks (Lincoln and Riverside)! Very impressed with bike trails and bridges across the river!

Best thing this city has done in a long time for the average person.

I greatly appreciate the Greenway and the work the Park Board and its employees do. It's a beautiful asset for the City.

The Greenway is the second best long-term result of the Flood of '97 (improvements to infrastructure and downtown in general being the most important). We use the Greenway for cycling virtually year-round.

I think the Greenway is one of the best things for GF/EGF. I absolutely love the walking/biking trails. It is truly a wonderful asset to the community. I feel fortunate to live in a city that has such a treasure.

I think that the Greenway is a valuable asset to our community.

Love the Greenway – thank you and nice job!!

The Greenway is awesome.

What a great place to walk and bike! I love it!

I have really enjoyed the biking/running events held on the greenway this year.

The Greenway is GREAT. A real asset to our communities.

I thank you for the Greenway events.

Keep up the good work!

Thanks for this wonderful amenity in our community.

I love the Greenway! It has changed the face of GF! Beauty abounds on the Greenway!

I just enjoy the Greenway so much. It's just across the street from me.

Thank you for the wonderful Lincoln Drive Park! It is always well maintained.

I live out of town. I haven't seen the Greenway. Some day I hope I will. I've heard only nice things about it. It sounds great. Keep up the good work.

We live on Evergreen Drive with backyard next to the bike path. We enjoy this part of the Greenway very much. We rarely go to other parts of the Greenway, but the whole plan of the Greenway is wonderful for these River cities.

I think it is a great attraction to the city. I just don't go there.

It's great for those who can use it – and it looks good.

I love the Greenway.

All of the items listed are good for the community. We love the parks and trails for children, gatherings with adult friends, recreation etc.

Great bike trails and other facilities.

We love the greenway trails!

I don't take full advantage of the greenway, but certainly appreciate the positive appearance it gives GF.

I really feel the greenway and all it offers is the best thing that has happened in GF. I have lived here my entire life and it's finally living up to its' potential.

We have a wonderful trail system!

All activities are important.

We do not use the Greenway but are very pleased to have it available.

We have not used it much, but think it is very important.

I'm 100% for the Greenway! I'm up there in age so maybe I won't get to use it – but I feel whatever the taxes are the Greenway is worth it.

The Greenway is a Great addition for our community! I cannot think of anything to add to an already wonderful project.

I am 79 years old and am handicapped. Ten years ago I would have loved the Greenway! The Greenway is the best thing that happened as far as the flood was concerned.

All of the activities sound great! People of all ages need these parks and events to have things to do with their families, friends, etc. Especially for kids activities – keeps them off drugs and trouble.

I think the greenway is wonderful! The best thing to happen to Grand Forks. I use it often for walking, biking, and would love to have XC trails on it. Don't feel the need for other activities.

We are blessed to have the beauty of God's Creation in our own "backyards" through the "development" of the greenway. Thank you for enhancing our city by seeing the importance of preserving God's creation!

#### Cost Concerns

I don't like the maintenance fee of \$1.15 monthly on my utility bill. Takes it out of taxes.

When my family and I moved here, I complained (and still do) about the taxes. I feel that my tax dollar is well spent for the Greenway. My wife and our 2 kids love to bike and it's great to have a safe place to do this. Well done!

Even though we don't use the parks and facilities as much as we'd like, it's nice knowing they are available and it has helped to make our city more beautiful. My only concern is the cost it reflects in our taxes.

All activities could be done without the greenway – a waste of money. I think the city has invested too much money to Greenway on a scale of 1 to 10 it should be a 2 compared to other issues the city has – taxes.

I like the Greenway but I do not like it so much that I want my taxes increased to provide any more services. The property taxes in Grand Forks are too high. I am thinking about moving because they are too high.

Do not use over priced river bottom and dog park.

This greenway will bring our taxes up way too much for what we get out of it. It's not important to have. Our taxes are way out of line already. Will be moving out of GF in a few years if taxes don't go down.

Upkeep more elaborate and expensive than it needs to be.  
Stop spending tax dollars for recreation it is not part of a necessity and sure as hell should not be the government's responsibility.

It's a riverbank that floods multiple times each year. Don't spend anything on it beyond cleaning the floodway.

Don't need it! Don't use it! Can't afford it! Don't want it!

Pump station is bull. Taxes are high enough for seniors on fixed income.

I don't want my taxes to go up for this!

Do not use any of above and do not want my taxes to go to this.

We are already taxes too much. Do not keep on adding to our burden.

Takes too much tax money.

Please down size dollar for dollar this is not cost evd. Put to tax payer vote on future upgrade.

People that use them should pay for them. Taxes are too high now.

I think it was a waste of money just like the dog park is going to be. Could use the money for the streets of GF. Fix them up and no patching.

Too much spent on it now!

Something that does not cost the taxpayers but would actually make some \$\$\$! Don't you get it – our taxes are too high!!!!

#### Comments

Grand Forks is not a destination city for snowcaters. Your snowmobile regulations stink! We have snowmobiles on the east side of Grand Forks. There is no way to get out of town except by loading it up and driving out the greenway is of absolutely no use whatsoever to snowmobiles. There should be designated trails leading to out of town on the east side of Grand Forks.

I would like to see more control of ATV's and snowmobiles on the Greenway. Snowmobiles tend to destroy any cross county ski trails people make in the greenway.

Keep the snowmobiles away from the greenway. They are a terrible source of noise and pollution.

Keep snowmobiles off the greenway.

I thought snowmobiles were NOT allowed? Someone please clarify! They are tearing up the newly planted ground cover, and in some cases the shrubs.

I prefer to see outdoor non-motorized activities on the Greenway. I'd also like the snowmobile problem resolved-they need access to river but should be vigorously patrolled to prevent along the Greenway use (which happens a lot in my area – Sunbeam, access).

My understanding is that snowmobiles/fourwheeler etc. Are prohibited from the Greenway but I feel that this is little enforced or recognized by the public. I feel that the GF police patrolled the Greenway on snowmobiles during last year ski days just emphasizes how misunderstood that prohibition is. There are many access points that are obvious where snowmobiles come up off the river that could be blocked and when people are obviously riding their snowmobiles from the parking lots in the Greenway onto the golf course and ski trails their vehicle should be ticketed.

I live on the Greenway and find the snowmobiles to be very distracting and annoying.

Snowcats use the river ice – it is too dangerous for them to be on the Greenway itself anywhere near children, pets and x-c skiers.

I do not believe snowmobiling should be allowed in the city limits and do not believe it should be allowed on the Greenway.

No snowmobiling on the Greenway.

No snowmobiles in the greenway please.

I thought motorized vehicles were illegal on the Greenway!

No motorized vehicles should apply to all. Keep the police 4-wheelers out too. unless there's a 911 call.

I don't like all the four wheel vehicles and snowmobiles on the Greenway. Please keep them off.

Get those snowmobiles out of there. Dangerous to walkers and cross-country skiers.

Snowmobiling – is it illegal?

I wish there was a way to keep snowmobiles off of the cross-country ski trails.

I would like to see Riverside Park between the walking path and the river cleaned up more. It looks like weeds and gets tall.

The bike trail along the river through LaFave Park is in need of improvement. There is both automobile traffic and bike/pedestrian traffic which could result in injury. This needs to be fixed.

While I have biked thousands of miles on the bike paths it is my considered opinion that steps must be taken to clean paths especially after run as mud and wash outs are very dangerous.

Sad and disappointed that the dirt trails closer to the river are not being kept up. I like to run/bike there so that I don't have to dodge strollers and baby carriers on the paved trail.

I was really impressed and grateful that the Greenway bike path was kept clear of snow most of the winter. It would be really nice is a path could be cleared between the street and the path (Lincoln Dr and 32 Ave South).

Please keep walking paths and trails around river and Lincoln Park cleared of snow for winter walk, bike riding. Would like to see high grass mowed between walking path and river so can use entire area ... or mow trails closer to river for nature lovers like me.

Why can't community sewer/water be used to clean up Greenway?

More weed and mosquito control.

I'm not sure is it's possible, but it would be nice to see an organization sprout for clearing flood debris in around the dams, bridges, banks.

The city must properly maintain the dry side of levee landscaping from everyone's tax dollars. Landscaping must be taken care of.

The gate that now blocks the access points straddling the boat ramp is an impediment to full use of the greenway in Lincoln Drive Park.

Isn't it possible for mowing crews to do a better job around areas like trees, signs, benches, and up against the floodwall? As it is, those areas are often overgrown. I would recommend getting out a smaller sized walk mower and a weed wacker. Also, city crews need to do a better job of maintaining the plantings on DeMers Ave's entryway downtown and in the Community Green area just north of DeMers (by the gazebo). These areas are often filled with weeds which is a real shame because this is probably the most visible area of the entire greenway. Also, while I really like the main area of Lincoln Drive Park, I'm not so fond of the older area to the east (where the homes used to be). Not only is Lincoln Drive itself very broken up, but the area along the old walking/biking (I believe this is a pre-flood path) is a little scary.



Continue to mow areas next to paths.

We really enjoy the greenway. My hope is that we continue to invest in the maintenance (keep it mowed, weeds under control, pavement, asphalt etc.) of the project so continue to enjoy it for many years. The \$1.15/ month is a real bargain.

One thing I think people need to pay attention to is trees. I love Riverside park, but some day there are going to be no trees there!!! They are all old nice stately oak trees, and very few young trees! We do too good a job of mowing so these new little guys never get started!

More trees in the area near the north pedestrian bridge that would help "hide" the industries that are visible in the Greenway.

Grow flowers.

I would like to see that the Greenway maintains its beauty by taking out the week and cleaning up the garbage and debris after the minor flood.

My hope is that upkeep will be a priority. What we have is great, but if it is not kept up, it will not be so wonderful to have...

I'd like to see garbage containers at the beginning and end of each path section. I'd like to see all the paths cleared during the winter months for walkers.

You need a blue plastic barrel at every bench along the bike paths. For instance – there are several expensive garbage sites in the old central park location on the dry side – but little and nothing on the wet side.

Need garbage cans by each bench.

A garbage can at 47<sup>th</sup> Ave.

More trash containers.

Needs more trash cans.

More garbage cans, water fountains, open restrooms, bike police, weed control

More garbage containers. I would love to see the DeMers bridge lights on all year round.

More drinking fountains/dog fountains and garbage cans please.

A few more benches and garbage cans are needed.

More trash cans, emergency phones, benches.

A few more benches, well located, would be nice.

I do not feel safe on the trails alone, because they are out of site from public streets.

I am sometimes resistant to walk the path by myself for fear of who may be hanging out on the benches and sometimes drinking?

We live in the Lincoln Park and find we are using the trails less because of the people from the mission sleeping and drinking on the trails. Many of our neighbors have this same issue.

I would like the drunks and people hanging out and drinking and sleeping under bridges policed. It is very unsafe in certain areas. I'm a woman and I've seen 3 guys just peeing out anywhere at the park. Not Good! Why aren't the bathrooms open. I do a lot of walking and there are times I need to use it.

I feel all current amenities are important. I would like to see more patrolling and safety features such as lighting or emergency phones.

Have you ever thought of putting lights or at least emergency 911 phones along the paths?

Lately, we've noticed a lot of bums and sleeping down there. Makes us feel unsafe if we're biking or walking by ourselves. What about police bike patrols? You need to get rid of the bums/crackheads. Don't let the Greenway become a hangout for bums/crackheads.

Public phones for safety would be great, I never use the trails alone.

On the greenway paved trails there are long stretches in between trail heads. Are there plans to have telephones or something similar for emergency situations? Also, are there any other things like camera's incorporated along the system for safety?

More police patrols in the Greenway. Too many cars in the Greenway.

Continue whatever measures necessary to keep the Greenway safe for all ages to enjoy.

More times when restrooms are open.

More restrooms.

I would also like to see restroom open longer.

Restrooms open until the snow comes down!

Be sure bathrooms are available and open.

Have restrooms open year round.

I would like to see some of the bathrooms remain open longer hours.

We need to make sure the water fountains are operational at all the rest areas.

Keep the water fountains functional.

Water fountains.

Water fountains for bikers, walkers, runners, and in-line skaters.

Water fountains spaced periodically around greenway trail; I'm a distance runner and H2O availability is currently limited.

So little regard for people who walk. Paths for walkers only. Benches are in the wrong places. But I still love it!

More places in the shade to sit down; esp in downtown area. It's too hot in the summer for older people and there isn't enough shade or trees so they don't go out. Need cool places to sit.

I run past some restrooms and/or water fountains that would be a terrific addition, if they were regularly open and accessible. Most restrooms and water fountains are either closed shut off whenever I try to use them.

Please, please get the restrooms and their water fountains working. I live near the Sunbeam access and have been quite disgusted with this delay. It is such a poor reflection on the Greenway System.

Return the area to wildlife.

Would love to see more "wild" areas.

Can have playareas and golf courses anywhere leave greenway to nature. Athletic fields, disc golf, softball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts – leave out of the greenway. Use greenway for nature, its' assets and put athletic fields and courts elsewhere.

We have other sites for traditional sports so I see less need for softball, basketball, golf, etc. on the Greenway.

Problems with snowmobiles on walk paths; noisy and unsafe.

To me it is important to leave a significant portion of the greenway relatively undeveloped. I love biking and walking in an area that is quite and unbuilt. I don't mind having athletic fields in some areas, but not everywhere. Keep the greenway green.

Softball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts – not inside the greenway.

Softball fields – not needed, provided elsewhere in the city.

Educational programs, athletic fields, disc golf, softball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts – all of these are important but not in the greenway that should stay natural. Most Christmas in the Park displays are not imaginative enough. More effort should go into them or forget about it. Loved the light display.

Greenway should be seeded with natural old growth grass and plant seeds and returned to its original state. Stop mowing grass, make it natural. This would return a more natural appeal to the river banks. The mowed grass is so sterile looking and destroys natural habitat for animals.

I'd like to see perennial wildflowers, flowers, colorful trees and shrubs started in the more natural areas (something nice to look at when you're walking or biking).

Plant more flowers for color.

Activities and facilities are pretty well covered.

EGF swimming pool should be for EGF kids only; ND kids should have to pay a lot bigger fee to swim.

Don't use greenway. Rare occasion may have family picnic at Riverside, maybe once every 5 years.

Red river is stinky, especially in summer months.

I use the bike path along South Washington (15<sup>th</sup>-47<sup>th</sup>); there are not any garbage cans along the path. Can some be placed in good locations?

Can something be done about the parking during soccer at Bringewatt Park? It's horrible, blocking crosswalks and hydrants, multiple cars parking on the radius of one intersection, the Post Office won't even deliver mail to the folks along 20<sup>th</sup> Street on soccer Saturdays. As a suggestions – could the crosswalks along 26<sup>th</sup> Ave be painted; paint the curb of 'no parking' areas yellow (like on 24<sup>th</sup>)?

#### Access

I have never been on the Greenway. I am unable to walk this distance – even to get to the Greenway – you need a shuttle for touring – or electric carts. I realize this may be an

insurance issue – but something could be done to make it more accessible – since some of my assessed dollars and tax dollars are used for it!

Let people know if accessible and where to access.

My husband and I are unable to use most of the facilities.  
Our physical limitations prevent our use of the Greenway.

I hope to bike and walk at some point.

I would like to see some smaller walking trails that go right down to the riverside. Also in Lincoln Park it would be nice if cars could get closer to the river so the elderly can go down in that area. I liked the fact that the Park District was giving tours to the elderly this fall but that was a little late for peak color and they should be able to access the river on their own.

This should not come as any surprise to anyone, but how am I, at the age of 77 years, ever going to visit the Greenway? The only access we elderly have to the Greenway is via the Riverside park, where we can drive what is left of the area to drive thru, or Lincoln park drive thru. There are no provisions, that I know of, at this time for the elderly to enjoy the walking paths etc, as most of us are unable to walk any distance. There other than the two areas mentioned above, the Greenway is closed to us. There is a slight possibility that the RRSRA Campground might be is some use to use if for no other reason than bird watching. If anybody would provide rental golf carts, when we would most likely be able to at least be able to enjoy those paths by the river to and from the different areas, such as Riverside park to the Lincoln park area, or other areas accessible via paths within the Greenway, such as the North and South bridges. For all practical purposes, at this time, the Greenway, for us, is closed to us.

Since you built the dike it's too far to get on or off. I can't see to drive. I think our next bad flooding will be overland from torrential rain which will make the dike worse than nothing.

Too far away from where we live.  
Never use – too far away.  
I'm too old.

I am 85 years old disabled partly so am not interested in any thing.

The gold cart senior rides worth repeating.

Continue golf cart tours of Greenway for older people.

An emphasis on senior activities. The current rides are a bit late in the season, but a very good idea.

## Qualitative Analysis of the Greenway User Survey

The final question of the Greenway User Survey was qualitative, giving the respondent the opportunity to comment on what activities/facilities they would like on the Greenway and to voice their concerns. The manifest content of the responses to the qualitative question were used to develop themes and the overall latent content underwent subjective evaluation before being summarized. Four themes were found, informal education on the greenway, suggestions for activities and facilities, compliments and comments. Minor themes were the public education, accessibility, cost concerns, Riverside Park and dog issues.

### Informal Education on the Greenway

There is still a desire for a Nature Center as part of the Greenway system. A recap of the history regarding construction of a nature center on the Greenway follows. The Grand Forks city council approved a nature center proposal in December of 1999 contingent on support of the local neighborhood and funding being secured. The Corps of Engineers determined that the best site for the proposed 2-story center to be north of Sunbeam Park. Local residents objected to the construction of the center and funding for the center was not secured outside of the city budget therefore construction was not undertaken. The East Grand Forks government proposed the construction of a Red River Regional Visitor Center within the Red River State Recreation Area. The proposed multi-story facility would have included a central lobby with a fireplace, restrooms/showers, trail center/warming room, exhibits and displays, an observation deck, gift shop and a storage area for equipment such as bicycles and canoes. Proposed partners were the USFWS, the Minnesota Audubon Society, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Minnesota Office of Tourism and the city of East Grand Forks. Estimated cost of the facility was \$2,987,000. The facility proposal was not funded by the state and therefore construction was not undertaken.

Those working to revitalize downtown Grand Forks would like to see the nature center downtown. Prior to the flood of 1997 Grand Forks had considered the development of the riverfront. The Greater Grand Forks River Forks Plan Executive Summary (Grand Forks/East Grand Forks Downtown Plan) was produced in April of 1994 by DS\_Lea Consultants Ltd.; Consulting Engineers, Planners and Transportation Consultants and Hilderman Witty Crosby Hanna & Associates, Landscape Architects and Planners. The plan was adopted by the Grand Forks Planning Commission and the cities of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks in March 1994. The development goals related to the greenway were "Community rediscovery of the riverfront and its establishment as the principal focus of downtown redevelopment." and "Creation of a downtown environment and facilities conducive to hosting of community-wide recreational and cultural activities – development of downtown as the primary focal point on community recreational, cultural and entertainment activity" (Grand Forks/East Grand Forks Downtown Plan. p. 10). There is still an opportunity to have a 'Gateway to the Greenway' site downtown; perhaps not an entire building just part of the main floor. One survey respondent suggests using the Chamber of Commerce Building downtown on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. It could be used as the headquarters for current events and to advertise upcoming events. Educational

displays could be shown on a rotational schedule. Informal educational activities could begin in the bldg and then progress out onto the Greenway. Self-guided tour guides and other independent learning activities could be available at the site.

Educational opportunities suggested by respondents included the construction of an observation tower, native planting areas, nature trails, educational programs on nature, history, riparian habitat and the rivers as well as self guided tours. Programs should be geared toward families with children not just adults.

Survey respondents requested more informational signage on the Greenway specifically to teach about nature, history and the significance of the Red River Valley. Interpretive plaques and panels are located throughout the Greenway to bring education onto the Greenway. There are 5 located on the East Grand Forks side of the Greenway. The locations are as follows: River Heights Trail Head, Sherlock Park, Griggs Park, Eagle Point Trail Head, and Crestwood Trail Head. These were designed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and focus on natural resources. Interpretive plaques and panels placed on the Grand Forks side of the greenway focus on history and culture. They are located at the Riverside Dam, Riverside Park (2 panels), Lewis Boulevard, Kannowski Park, Lincoln Drive Park, DeMers Avenue (4 panels) and the Community Green. The interpretive plaques are a source of permanent information whereas the kiosks panels can be changed. The interpretive plaque located in the Community Green explains the history of downtown Grand Forks and the role that steam boats played in that history. Lincoln Drive Park has two plaques that review the history of the Lincoln Golf course and contain information from the Grand Forks Park District centennial.

Native plant areas with accompanying educational materials were recommended. Lincoln Park has various educational features in addition to the interpretative panels. Paving stone artwork shows the streets of the Lincoln Park neighborhood and the flow of the river prior to the flood of 1997 which destroyed the 350 homes of the Lincoln Park area. Sculptures commemorate the life of the neighborhood before the flood. A native prairie garden with walking paths has the native plants identified. More permanent plant identification markers could be added to the prairie garden and an informative brochure could be available from the Greenway web page. The Aesthetic Design Palette planting list specifies tree and shrub species for both the wet and dry sides of the dike. Shrubs on the dry side of the dike are used to define entry points to the greenway. Few coniferous trees are native to the area but some non-native hardy species were planted on the dry side of the dike. Native perennials were used to bring color to the greenway. Prairie meadow and streambank mix (MN DOT mix 25A) grasses were used on lowland areas. The Urban prairie grass mixture (MN DOT mixture 30A) includes native wildflowers and was used in upland areas. Low maintenance turf mix (MN DOT 60A) or sod was used in formal areas near the town green and in parks. An explanation of plants and grasses chosen for use in the Greenway could be a kiosk exhibit.

### Public Education Regarding the Greenway

Public education has been an ongoing challenge. Throughout the construction process the media has been kept informed and update publications have been mailed to every resident. Brochures and maps were mailed out to those respondents with questions;

if a mailing address or email address was provided. Keeping the public informed will be an ongoing challenge. There is isn't one type on media that reaches everyone. Direct mailing or an insert with the water bill reaches the majority of residents. The Greenway web site provides information to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The survey gave respondents the opportunity to sign-up for Greenway news: 106 survey respondents provided a resident mailing address and 333 provided an email address. Residents could be reminded on an annual basis that they have the opportunity to sign-up for the electronic Greenway news on the Greenway web site. The reminder could accompany the water bill. A printed newsletter may be cost prohibitive. Perhaps for those residents that want news mailed to them a quarterly newsletter could be mailed for a fee.

### Riverside Park

Survey respondents suggested having a sledding hill, a hockey program and concerts at Riverside Park as well as featuring the Riverside Dam as a whitewater canoe/kayak destination.

The reconstruction of the public swimming pool at the Grand Forks Riverside Park has been a contentious issue. The swimming pool built during the Great Depression was devastated by the flood of 1997. The price tag on Riverside Park pool renovation was \$3.2 million. The city council wants the cost down to \$1.1 million and will spend \$13,500 to hire architects to draw new plans. Some city council members object to investing in a pool located on the wet side of the levee. Others members object to the investment because of the declining youth population on the north end. The Park District has \$600,000 set aside for a water feature such as a splash park at Riverside Park. As of December 2007 the issue is still undecided by the city council. Survey respondents commented both in favor and opposed to a swimming pool in Riverside Park; 20 in favor and 3 opposed.

### Dog Park

The 2.5 acres dog park offers dog owners a safe and legal opportunity to exercise their pet off leash within the city limits. Current licenses are required for all dogs living within the Grand Forks city limits. Owners are legally responsible for their dogs and any injuries caused by them. The Grand Forks City Council and Grand Forks Park District adopted the following rules for the dog park:

Park Hours: Open 5 am –11 pm.

Use the Dog Park at your own risk. Owners are legally responsible for their dogs and any injuries caused by them.

Dogs are allowed off leash in dog park areas only. Owners must carry a leash at all times.

Dogs should be leashed before entering and prior to leaving the dog park.

Dogs must wear a collar, carry ID tags, be properly licensed and vaccinated, be parasite free and in healthy condition.

Owners must remain in the dog park with their dogs at all times.

Dogs must be leashed when maintenance crews are working in the dog park.

No children under the age of 12 allowed in the dog park without adult supervision.

Owners must pick up and dispose of dog feces.



Female dogs in heat and dogs less than four months of age are prohibited from entering the dog park.

Dogs must be removed from the dog park at the first sign of aggression or excessive barking.

Violators of these rules will be subject to removal from the dog park and suspension of dog park privileges.

All users need to abide by City Codes. Greenway and Park Rules apply to this site.

The Lincoln Park dog park information needs to be added to the Greenway Users Guide. The land used for the dog park was transferred from city jurisdiction to the jurisdiction of the Grand Forks Park District. Hours of operation are consistent with the general hours of operation of all parks. Funding for the dog park project was provided by the City of Grand Forks, the Grand Forks Park District and Roaming Paws Dog Park advocacy group.

### Access

The elderly want to have access to the Greenway with their cars. They would like to have more views of the river from the Lincoln and Riverside auto loops. They liked the Park District golf cart Greenway tour event in 2007.

The Greenway has handicap accessible components including grills, picnic tables and playground equipment and the trails are limited to a 5% grade. Public education is needed regarding the accessibility of the Greenway. The legend of the Greenway map does not include the accessibility logo. Addition of the logo would be one way to designate American with Disabilities Act (ADA) access points onto the Greenway. Of the 17 survey respondents from Options Interstate Resource Center for Independent Living 3 stated that they could not afford the bus/dial-a-ride fare, 2 did not know how to get to the Greenway from their home, 3 had never heard of the Greenway, 1 disliked outdoor activities, 3 did not know that the Greenway was accessible, 1 needed a companion to use the Greenway, and 5 did not feel as though the Greenway events pertained to them. The Options Interstate Resource Center for Independent Living organization could raise public awareness of the accessibility components of the Greenway.

### Cost Concerns

The Grand Forks side of the Greenway was funded with a combination of federal, state and local money. Local funding was provided by 3 special assessments of Grand Forks property owners. The third special assessment is optional and will be decided by the city council. A betterment fund was established to cover amenities not included in the original plan and maintenance of the Greenway. Grand Forks residents pay \$1.15 per month to the betterment fund as part of their water bill. The East Grand Forks side of the Greenway was paid with federal and state funding. Without local funding the East Grand Forks side of the Greenway has a minimal maintenance design and limited amenities.

The public needs to be educated regarding Greenway funding. Many survey respondents complained that the Greenway causes an increase in their (property) taxes. Only one respondent complained about the betterment fund fee on the water bill and would prefer the expense be added to taxes.

## Comments

One survey respondent requested snowmobile access trails across the Greenway to the rivers. Many survey respondents expressed safety concerns regarding motorized vehicles on the Greenway. Noise and the stress that the snowmobiles put on the cross country skiing trails were also concerns.

Regarding maintenance some respondents wanted minimal maintenance so that the Greenway is 'native'. There were comments to remove athletic facilities from the Greenway so that it could be less developed. However most respondents wanted more mowing, more weed control, more water fountains, more benches (especially in the shade), and restrooms open 24 hours a day.

## Suggestions

Survey respondents had many suggestions for Greenway events including marathons, races, concerts, festivals, snowman contest, and family activities. Other suggestions made by respondents included the following. Skiers would like to see expansion of the cross country ski trail systems, addition of a ski rental facility and special ski events. Mountain bikers would use the extended cross-country ski trails along the river in the summer. The addition of canoe/kayak river access points for both the Red and Red Lake rivers. These access points would not be boat ramps and would not be shared with motorized boats. They would be riverbank areas maintained for this purpose and in close proximity to parking lots. Similar river access was requested by shore fishermen; a maintained area of riverbank where you can take children to fish. Greenway users requested the expansion of the trail marker system with both distance and location signage, kiosks with large easy to read maps and the ability to print an enlarged section of the Greenway map from the web site. Signage and infrastructure for exercising along the trails was suggested to be promoted as a community summer/fall health trip. To increase Greenway use a year-round program to recognize mileage accumulated regardless of which form of exercise they choose. Other suggestions were a permanent skate board park, a downtown ice skating rink, an ice skating trail that extends the length of the Greenway, vendors and equipment rental businesses on the Greenway, the addition of more sledding sites with some more challenging for teenagers and adults, the addition of more disk golf courses and upgrades to existing courses, a model airplane field, badminton courts, a fishing pier, ski jump, valley ball pits, horse back riding trails, horse and buggy tours.

Survey respondents showed support of motorized vehicles on the Greenway. They would like a designated location for loading and unloading vehicle trailers and designated access routes for snowmobiles to get on and off the rivers. The addition of ATV and snowmobile trails along the rivers was suggested.

The Greenway has the potential for 26 miles of unpaved trails. Unpaved hiking trails have been constructed at an elevation of 815' giving the trails a 25% probability of begin flooded in the spring. Unpaved snow mobile trails were placed at an elevation of 805' giving these trails a 40% probability of being flooded in the spring. Recreational trails were constructed using Bituminous paving, however due the proximity to the river

the pavement incurs water damage from both above and below. The pavement is monitored for damage and sections replaced each year. Survey respondents commented on the roughness of some areas of the paved trail being dangerous especially for in-line skaters. Each spring the assessment of pavement damage and the tentative repair schedule could be posted on the Greenway web page.

### Compliments

Numerous survey respondents made complimentary comments regarding the Greenway as an asset to our community. Even those respondents that are not able to use the Greenway recognized the value of the Greenway as a community asset.

Raid  
1/8/08  
WJ

I would like to know when the park will be sprayed  
chemicals to kill the weeds. I have a dog and don't like to  
walk her right after it's been sprayed. Could this be done by  
email? kallard@gfschools.org

FYI Kim