

**Greenway Technical Committee
Meeting- January 8, 2002
10:30 am- Grand Forks Park District Office**

Participants: Steve Mullally- Grand Forks Park District, Will Gosnold- Non paved trail Planner, Ann Sande- Friends of the Greenway, Steve Magnuson- Red River Snowmobile Group, Tim Schroeder- UND, Steve Renslow- Red River Snowmobile Group, Greg Boppre- Floan & Sanders, Helen Cozzetto- MN DNR, John Winter- MN DNR, Melanie Parvey-Biby- City of Grand Forks, Corey Birkholz- Options, Randy Sorenson – Options, Dale Skyberg- City of East Grand Forks Parks and Rec., Earl Haugen- MPO, Marty Egeland- ND Game and Fish Dept., Mike Larson- MN DNR Fisheries

I. Update on Non-Paved Trail Planning – Will Gosnold

No handout available, recommendation for the trails to be grass – for fishing access points plan to open up spaces near the river, no sub-base for trail just mow a strip of grass; Dr. Beaver, non-paved trail planner, looked at Winnipeg trails, cost outrageous to truck in limestone. If the limestone had to be trucked in from the Winnipeg area would probably increase the cost. From an engineering standpoint – Greg Boppre thought grass would be appropriate for walking and running. Another option would be crushed granite.

ADA accessibility: This was a concern, if it is a firm stable trail, is that ok? Need to consider grade and cross slope. MN DNR and EGF need to have ADA grade to access fishing sites. EGF Phase I has one fishing access near the forks. Regulations for trail system are not in stone, wilderness areas there can be different levels of accessibility, Randy Sorenson will review. Randy stated that he hasn't seen anything Grand Forks is working on. Has it been considered to allow golf carts or vehicles for seniors or those with disabilities? Need to check the Grand Forks bike code.

Mowing vs. restoration: Will Gosnold recommended the whole thing (greenway) be mowed. MN DNR has a landscape plan – staff explained the restoration plan behind Eagles and mentioned that they will mow recreation sites not the entire greenway. Grand Forks staff explained that they were holding public meeting, gather information on maintenance levels did not anticipate that the whole greenway would be mowed. The public meeting date is January 24, 2002, 5-7 p.m., GF Herald Community Room, invited everyone to come. Comment made that we would like to stay consistent on cutting grass near trail work this out between EGF Parks and GF Park District.

Signage: Would also like to see uniform signs to designate corridors for different uses. The Corps has worked with the DNR to establish what types of signs will be used in the Greenway as part of the Corps project. Consider using these same signs in other portions of the project, such as along the non-paved trail. There was a concern that the signage should meet ADA requirements, information on slope, color contrast, and Braille. Kiosk in the greenway need signage do we make a Greenway logo or use different logos, signing team should work together on this; consider “You are Here” signs – need to develop these would like to have consistency throughout the project, suggestion to wait until the project is near complete otherwise signs will be outdated.

Corridor Width: Snowmobile trails are approximately 15 feet wide, this is how large the groomer is that the Snowmobile Club just purchased; windstorm did damage and floods plug areas, snowmobile group clean and brush it out in the fall; lay areas for snowmobiles, would the City allow this? One area mentioned was Koinonia. Haven't extended snowmobile trail south in Grand Forks because of private ownership, snowmobile group have expanded trail in Crookston on railroad corridor; Snowmobile Club – placed signs – miniature “yield” signs, pretty universal. Do these signs stay up all year – which are removed and which stay up? All removed after the season. How far apart should the signs be? No answer. Snowmobile group bring forward signs, DNR bring forward signs, work on this through committee

Development of Non-paved trail: Sierra Club has expressed interest to City of Grand Forks to sign non-paved trail near Lincoln (East of course) as a nature trail; John French's group cleaned this off last year.

Elevation: non-paved trails; consider having them high enough to use all year.

Timeframe for the project: Will Gosnold needs to incorporate data, the plan will need to be reviewed by Planning & Zoning as well as Council and MPO; The non-paved trail plan would be incorporated into the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Will Gosnold – forward plans to committee members, this will be a preliminary draft document – rewrite it or review to make sure comments have been incorporated.

DNR implement trails and restoration in Phase I as that project is being implemented.

II. Action Committee

Bonestroo study reviewed by cities, Corps doing hydraulic analysis on the bridge locations that the cities have requested, need to identify locations, bring this idea back to Action Committee; DNR wants to be involved before final design for permits; does the Technical Committee need to forward the Bonestroo Report to DNR? There was a suggestion to have a Memo to Mayor with these concerns and our suggestions; DNR staff agreed to invite Chad Konickson with DNR Waters to the next meeting on February 12, 2002; involve technical staff at this committee level.

III. Next Meeting- February 12, 2002 and Agenda Items

Trails, Fishing, Interpretative signs, request to add: EGF Dam Project, by DNR Fisheries

IV. Greenway Video

Spelling Mistake – Greenway at the last part of the video; finalizing the video; concern that not all agencies logos were represented on the video, the video was funded by the City of Grand Forks, could consider other sponsors for the video and incorporating others logos? Melanie agreed to check into and get back to those interested agencies (MN DNR, City of East Grand Forks, and Grand Forks Park District)