

2015

Granite Falls Memorial Park Master Plan



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Thank you to the following individuals who were also interviewed:

Mayor David Smiglewski
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Chapter 1: Overview

Plan Approach

The planning process involved the following outreach:

1. Interviews held in November of 2014
 - a. Took inventory and reviewed current conditions of Memorial Park
2. Task Force meeting #1 held March 26, 2015
 - a. Gathered data and drafted project priorities
 - b. Determined Vision Statement for park
3. Task Force meeting #2 held April 22, 2015
 - a. Ranked projects based on opportunities and immediate needs within park
 - b. Approved Vision Statement
 - c. Presented draft of the Master Plan to the Task Force members
4. Public meeting held May 21, 2015
 - a. Presented the Master Plan to public for input and suggestions
 - b. The plan was available electronically for those unable to attend the public meeting

Public input

The task force included a broad representation of the public and groups within Granite Falls. The task force hosted a public meeting at the Granite Falls City Hall lobby on May 21st. Maps, copies of the draft plan and a list of the projects were available for the public to review. Comments were taken and considered by the task force. .

Purpose of the plan

The Memorial Park Master Plan is collaboration with the City of Granite Falls, the Memorial Park Task Force, and Yellow Medicine County to set goals, objectives, and create a vision for the park and its future. The plan will work to address the needs of the park, opportunities based on programs and available funding, and explore new prospects to continue Memorial Park's legacy as a regional destination for both citizens and visitors.

This plan should guide the future development of the park, but is also flexible to change as improvements to park take place and new information is discovered.

Memorial Park scored among the top 20 facilities submitted to the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission in 2014 for regional designation and will continue to work with the Commission as a partner to enhance the regional parks system throughout the state of Minnesota.

Setting

Memorial Park is 141 acres of designated land within the city limits of Granite Falls. It serves as the largest and second oldest park in the city and features many natural and recreational opportunities. The park offers camping for both tents and RVs, picnic areas, playground equipment, as well as a large shelter primarily made of granite that can be rented for gatherings or celebrations.

Natural resources within the park include access to the Minnesota River, geological granite outcroppings, and numerous native species of trees and brush making the park a destination for citizens and visitors to explore and enjoy.

Memorial Park is one of the most extensively-developed and well-preserved Rustic Style parks in southwestern Minnesota. The park provides excellent examples of the compatibility between man-made construction and nature.

At this time, the City of Granite Falls does not foresee expansion of the park or the acquisition of additional parkland to be included in Memorial Park and is actively continuing work to ensure the park is used and enjoyed by many.

Vision and Goals

Vision Statement of Memorial Park

Memorial Park will be a regional destination and gateway to natural, cultural, and historical resources and recreational facilities while serving as a memorial to World War I for residents and visitors to explore and enjoy.

Goals of Memorial Park

Memorial Park fills an important gap in the city of Granite Falls and region through the unique opportunities and values of the park. According to the National Center for Veterans, Minnesota has is home to over 369,000 Veterans and Memorial Park has historically been in tribute to Veterans, specifically those of World War I. Visions and goals for the park are to create a regional destination for people to reflect, remember, and enjoy a variety of resources and recreational activities.

The Memorial Park Task Force has identified the following as goals for the park to increase community involvement and regional draw:

- *Create awareness of the opportunities that exist within the community and region;*
- *Provide a pleasant experience for residents to use and to serve as a memorial to the Veterans;*
- *Increase camping and use of the Minnesota River;*
- *Continue to grow and improve the park through community involvement and participation;*
- *Direct more tourism and visitors to the park through increased advertisement and signage*
- *Increase visibility locally and regionally;*

- *Integrate Memorial Park into community fabric;*
- *Preserve unique natural features including granite outcrops; and*
- *Increase and strengthen community image and create sense of place*

The projects and programs outlined within this plan will help achieve the visions and goals that have been set for the park while maintaining the rustic, nature-based setting. The goals and vision will be a collaborative project working to maintain and improve the quality of the park as well as the experience for residents and visitors.

Classification

Memorial Park best aligns with the *Natural Resource-Based Regional Park* as defined in the *Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan*.

Regional Significance Statement

Memorial park is regionally significant because a park the offers nature-based outdoor recreation activities along the Minnesota River with unique granite outcrops. It is located along the Minnesota River, near Granite Falls and along planned trails, giving it extremely good access both within the city as well as throughout the region.

Criteria

The following are criteria established to become a regional park with information about Memorial Park:

Criteria #1: Provides a High-Quality Outdoor Recreation Experience

Memorial Park offers many nature-based outdoor recreation activities—that is the main purpose for the park. It is a much larger park (141 acres) than an average city park intended for only city residents. It offers opportunities for camping (both tent and RV), canoeing and kayaking, fishing (from shore or in a boat), bird watching, walking/running/bicycling on paved trails, nature hiking, and picnicking.

The park offers many facilities to support the wide variety of natural resource-based outdoor recreational activities such as multiple picnic shelters, water and electric at the campsites, restroom facilities with showers, a boat launch, playground equipment, a natural outdoor amphitheater, and many paved and unpaved trails. Some of these facilities are in need of upgrades and the City and community have recently decided to focus their attention to improving the facilities and recreational opportunities in Memorial Park so they can attract new visitors from a wider area and get more visitors to become repeat users of the park. They see Memorial Park as a huge tourism and economic development asset to the Granite Falls community and other nearby communities.

Criteria #2: Preserves a Regionally-Significant and Diverse Natural or Historic Landscape

The signature feature of Memorial Park is the **Minnesota River**, with multiple secondary features such as the **granite outcroppings, rare plant and animal species, a pond and hiking trails**. This section of the Minnesota River flows through granite outcrops, which are

some of the oldest rocks discovered in North America, dating back more than three billion years. The Minnesota River in this area is a haven for bird life. Several species of waterfowl and wetland birds use the river for corridor nesting, breeding and resting during migration. Pheasants and Hungarian partridge find this cover in the river valley for nesting and for protection from harsh winter storms. This section of the river also supports a large and relatively diverse fish population, which attracts anglers from around the state and other states throughout the U.S.

One of the main attractions for out of state visitors is the opportunity to catch flathead catfish exceeding 40 pounds and channel catfish exceeding 10 pounds. Anglers also come to this section of the river at Memorial Park to catch walleye, sauger, white bass, northern pike, smallmouth bass and shovelnose sturgeon.

The landscape of the park and its natural amenities are the main attraction to the park. Visitors come to Memorial Park to take in nature and the outdoors—to fish, bird watch, hike, camp, and enjoy the unique geological features of the granite outcroppings.

Memorial Park offers protection for the rock outcrops with a host of lichen species and many species of habitat-specific vascular plants and wildlife, while also allowing the public access to these beautiful natural features and natural environment. The protection of the natural environment this park offers is extremely important, as many other areas along the Minnesota River with similar natural resources are not protected and are used for granite mining, housing and other development. There are two Minnesota Scientific Natural Areas (SNA) nearby that offer protection to this sensitive and rare habitat; however, those SNAs are generally not available for the public and are not available for outdoor recreation activities. Therefore, both the access for the public to such rare and unique natural habitat and the protection of that habitat from mining and development make Memorial Park an important public amenity.

Criteria #3: Well-located and Connected to Serve a Regional Population and/or Tourist Destination

Granite Falls is located equally between Marshall and Willmar, the two largest regional centers in southwest Minnesota. Granite Falls is the County seat of Yellow Medicine County and a smaller regional hub which is close to other smaller regional hubs, such as Montevideo. Granite Falls and Memorial Park are also along the planned Minnesota River Trail system that connects many communities along the entire length of the Minnesota River. Once more portions of the Minnesota River Trail are built; Memorial Park will serve as an important resting place for future trail users, whether they stop for a few hours or are on a longer bike tour and stay overnight. Memorial Park is currently connected to the local community by trails and walking paths. Memorial Park is also located on the Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway.

Criteria #4: Fills a Gap in Recreational Opportunity within the Region

There are not many parks of Memorial Park's caliber that provide access to the Minnesota River in this region. In Region 6W, Ortonville is the only other municipality that has parks that offer access to the Minnesota River. There are three city parks in Ortonville: Riverside, Lakeside and Peninsula Parks that have access to the Minnesota River which in Ortonville,

takes the form of Big Stone Lake. These parks are all much smaller than Memorial Park and offer a completely different visitor experience, as they are mostly utilized by residents of the community for short day trips or a few hours of play at the park. While Memorial Park is used by residents of Granite Falls, it draws visitors from a larger area because of the unique outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities discussed in the sections above and due to its options of overnight camping. Memorial Park is a destination in and of itself and there are no other municipal parks in the region that offer the amenities and access to the Minnesota River like Memorial Park.

Additionally, as mentioned under criteria #2, the natural habitat that supports unique and rare geological features as well as plants and wildlife in this portion of the Minnesota River Valley is often susceptible to mining or other development. There are two nearby SNAs that offer protection of this habitat; however, they do not offer the public access to enjoy these unique natural features, wildlife and plants. Memorial Park helps preserve this natural landscape, while being one of the few protected areas that the public can also enjoy and use for outdoor recreation.

The Upper Sioux State Park is located a few miles downstream from Memorial Park and offers access to the Minnesota River and camping opportunities. However, entry to that park is not free for users like it is at Memorial Park and it is possible that visitors of one park may also visit the other if they are touring the area on a trip.

Implementing agency

Memorial Park is entirely within city limits of Granite Falls but regional collaboration will be necessary for success. Yellow Medicine County and the City of Granite Falls will work together to develop, support and maintain projects outlined within this plan. The City of Granite Falls will work to implement the mission of the park most directly.

Regional partnerships include:

- The community of Granite Falls
- Yellow Medicine County
- Memorial Park Task Force Members
- The Granite Falls Park Board
- Local Boy Scouts
- The Granite Falls Riverfront Revitalization group
- Local Kiwanis and Lions clubs
- Various church groups
- Western Minnesota Prairie Waters

Chapter 2: History

A brief history of the park begins in 1925 when the park was purchased by the American Legion after a water carnival fundraiser and was then donated to the city of Granite Falls. The purpose of the park was and remains today to pay memorial to World War I and its veterans. Much of the park was developed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) under President Franklin D. Roosevelt through the New Deal agency. Historical markers of the work completed under the WPA have been preserved and remain in the park.

Memorial Park features many unique historical, natural and cultural artifacts. Throughout the park there are numerous granite outcroppings which are unique to the area making the park a destination for geological research and learning. A Native American maiden was laid to rest within the boundary that is now designated as the park. Upon entrance to the park, there are large granite gates constructed in 1936 featuring plaques paying memorial to veterans who served in World War I. Most of Memorial Park is in its natural state filled with deciduous trees, shrubs, and a variety of wetlands.

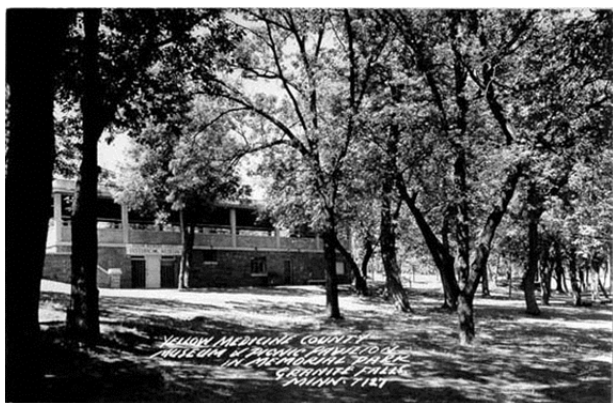
The large shelter was constructed in 1937. The park also features a memorial amphitheater which was constructed in 1936. The amphitheater is at a higher elevation than much of the park making views of the small lake to the north of the amphitheater picturesque.

The blue bath house was completed in 1938 and was equipped with a general entrance, dressing rooms, bathrooms and showers for a capacity of over 200 people. When the bath house was built, this area of the Minnesota River had a long beach and was a popular spot for swimming.

The Minnesota River has changed since the days of the beach use. The beach is no longer there, and the bath house has been abandoned for 30 years. It has also been flooded several times and is currently in severe disrepair.



A view of the bath house and swimming beach. The swimming beach no longer exists.



Main Shelter build in 1937



Entrance to Park



Boy Scout Cabin once sat near the main shelter

Chapter 3: Issues and Opportunities

The Task Force identified existing conditions, issues and potential projects in the park that need addressing to help park users fully enjoy the space. These potential projects are split into three groups: Natural Environment, Recreation and Infrastructure.

Natural Environment



Invasive species in Memorial Park covering the granite outcrops and habitat.

Invasive species management

One of the main issues and potential projects that would have a great impact is the removal of invasive species. Buckthorn removal would both improve the view of granite outcrops as well as improve the habitat for rare plant and animal species such as five-lined skink and prickly pear cactus.

Cleaning up Memorial Park will have one of the largest impacts on the visual and usability of the park. The following are the three main invasive species to consider:

1. *Buckthorn*

Buckthorn threatens native plants by out-competing them for nutrients, light, and moisture. It can lead to increased erosion and it can degrade wildlife habitat. Buckthorn with stems larger than 2 inches in diameter should be cut and treated with herbicide. Buckthorn smaller than 3/8th inch in diameter can be removed by hand. Small seedlings can be pulled and will not resprout.

2. *Poison Ivy*

Poison Ivy is a native plant to Minnesota. Poison Ivy is harmful to humans can cause rashes and occasionally blister. Though it negatively affects humans, many animals such as the white-tailed deer, raccoon, along with many songbirds use it as a food source. Poison Ivy is difficult to remove because the entire plant must be eliminated for it to be removed. This can be done by pulling the plant, including roots or by spraying with herbicides.

3. Cattails

Cattails are a wetland plant that has the ability to grow and spread vigorously. They can reach up to 10 feet tall and they are commonly found in dense groups. Eliminating cattails is difficult due to needing to disrupt their root system. Popular methods to remove them include mowing or cutting cattails, flooding or freezing them, or a combination of both. If cattails are cut two to three times a growing season, very few cattails will grow back the following year.

Resources and Opportunities:

Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA), USDA NRCS: Technical assistance supported by science-based technology and tools to help people conserve, maintain, and improve their natural resources.

Native Planting and Landscaping

A plan for planting native species in the park will help manage invasive species, address erosion and improve the overall visual impact. With proximity to the river, strategic landscaping and the use of rain gardens would reduce effects of erosion along the ever-changing Minnesota River.

- Native Tree Species: oak, cottonwood, maple, hackberry, linden, elm, willow, ash and cedar
- Native Shrubbery: sumac, grasses, prickly pear cactus, wildflowers.



Erosion into the Minnesota River.

Natural science and education opportunities

Memorial Park is an incredible area to enjoy the natural areas of granite outcrops, the river, plants, birds and wildlife. There are many opportunities to consider:

- Birding: 18 species of warblers, 5 species of vireos, 10 species of flycatchers, 7 species of thrushes, and 17 species of sparrows can be found within the park. Bald Eagles can be found due to open water within the park during winter months
- Mushrooming: Morel mushrooms
- Granite outcrops – The granite outcrops have been identified as a significant natural feature. To preserve, these areas should be protected from disturbance and trails to be located for such protection.
- Five-lined Skink – identified in the area as a rare animal species in Granite outcrops, clearing should be created and maintained, and access developed to water.

Recreation

Current recreational facilities in the park include two outdated playgrounds, a sand volleyball court, basketball hoops and a boat and canoe landing. The following are potential projects for adding to the recreational opportunities in the park.



Current basketball hoops

Disc Golf Course

Memorial Park would provide a challenging 18-hole course that would be rated at a more advanced level. Natural features within the park would create a unique and beautiful course unlike others in the region. With disc golf growing in popularity, a more advanced, difficult course would increase people in the park and would be an attraction for athletes and spectators. There is a high potential for large tournaments and events to be held with a high quality course.

Kayak or Canoe Rental

The urgency level is low for the project due to feasibility and lack of information. A rental could operate out of the lower level of the current shelter. More research would need to be completed before the installation. Questions of if it would be a publicly rental vs. a private would need to be addressed. If private, there would likely need to be a company or individual interested in the area or park.

Boat and Canoe Landing

The river has not determined its path through Memorial Park at this time. With the removal of the Minnesota Falls Dam, it will take a few seasons for it to make the course it will run. The DNR will work to correct the current boat and canoe landing that was affected by the dam removal.



Current Boat Landing

Fishing Pier

The river will need to determine its course before a fishing pier could be added to the park as a recreational option.

Horse Shoe Pits

This could be placed in playground near shelter, or in campground area.

Playground

Memorial Park currently has playground equipment that is not compliant with the American Disability Act. The current status is fair but a more inclusive upgrade to the equipment would be preferred. There is currently playground equipment near the shelter and near the campground.



Playgrounds at Memorial Park

Sand Volleyball Court

The current sand volleyball court near the campground needs to be enhanced with new sand and a new net. Citizens and visitors bring their own ball but the net remains in the park throughout spring, summer, and fall.



Current Sand Volleyball Court

Infrastructure



There are two picnics shelters in the park.

Currently the park has the large shelter built in 1937, an old dilapidated bath house, restrooms in poor shape, a picnic shelter near the campground, a storage building near the campground and 1.16 miles of paved walking trails. There is electricity and running water in the park. A holding tank currently provides sewer service for the restroom.

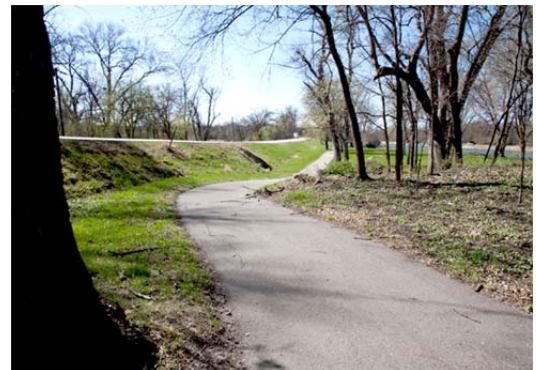
There are a number of picnic tables in the park: in the main shelter, in the playground area near the shelter, and at each campsite. Other infrastructure in the park includes 12 campsites for camper trailers and one/two primitive sites along the hiking trail. Signage is primitive in the park.

The following are infrastructure needs and potential projects.

Trails

A complete trail system is needed within the 141 acre park. A trail of 1.16 miles is currently paved. Additional trails are needed to provide access within the park. Trails could also connect the park to the downtown which is approximately 1 mile from the park. To the east of the park, connections should be considered to a potential whitewater park (1-2 miles) and perhaps to the Upper Sioux Agency state Park (11+ miles).

Within the park, walking paths could be made unique with history, interpretation and public art. Benches, interpretation and bike stations could be included in the park along the trails and at trail heads.



Paved Trail in the park

The Old Bath House

The bath house built in 1938 is currently in severe disrepair. It has been vacant and abandoned for over 30 years and flooded several times. The interior has been gutted and the roof has failed, making any repair/reconstruction unfeasible.

A building inspector noted in 2003 that the building should be razed as it is a hazardous building and the costs of repairs would be more than 50% of its estimated value. Buildings that are in the flood plain are not to be rebuilt once they reach a point that the repairs exceed the 50% value threshold.

Reuse/repurpose was discussed by the task force. MNHS funds would be available for a reuse study and well as repairs. However, the location of the building is right next to Hwy 67 with no parking. Because of the condition of the building as well as the location, a reuse idea was not possible.

This building is owned by the county who would like to remove it. Efforts should be made to preserve any historical pieces of the building and to preserve the history of the building through photographs, interpretation at the site. The building is not on the national register so no regulations are required before removing.



The shoreline along Memorial Park with the Bath House in distance.



Current photos of the Bath House.

Restroom and Shower Facility Improvements near campground

The current restrooms in the campground area were built in 1975. They are currently functionally obsolete, do not meet current ADA standards and are in poor condition. The current restrooms are a detriment for potential campers and should be replaced to get more visitors back to Memorial Park. The City proposes to demolish the existing and out of date restroom facility and build a new restroom and shower facility on the same site as the old restroom building.

Currently there is a holding tank under the restrooms. Ideally, a mound septic system will be used for the new restroom. A separate water and septic system will be needed to serve the campground with full water and sewer hook ups.



Restroom facility with running water on north side of road near playground.

A new restroom near the playground and shelter would prevent people crossing the road for facilities. Running water would also be useful for the shelter and event use. It is hoped to have a full facility with running water and flush toilets.

Campground Improvements

The campground area was last improved in the 1960s and has 10 widely-scattered sites for tent camping along the loop road in the camping and picnic area. In addition, there are 12 sites for camper-trailers located along the northern side of the loop road, just southeast of the memorial amphitheater. There is a small parking area near the entrance of the camping and picnic area. The camping and picnic area has two picnic shelters, and a shed, all of which will remain as well as a restroom building that needs to be replaced. The improvements proposed to the campground area include repaving the parking area portion of each campsite. The pavement has deteriorated, making it difficult for users to set up their campers in the campground area.

Currently there is 12 campsites with power at the campground. Each site has a 20 amp and a 30 amp RV outlet mounted in a pedestal. There is also a light at each campsite. There is also electricity (lights and outlets) at the both picnic shelters, and restroom building.

Goals for the campground improvements include:

- Accommodate a limited number of RV with full hook up and septic.
- Accommodate a limited number of pull-through with full hook up and septic.
- Tent camping
- Picnic and grill area improvements
- Consider walk-in tent camping along the MN River.
- Pay box for camping facilities. Consider monthly camping fees.

Although full septic hookup is a goal for the future a mound system is planned for the bathrooms and it is preferred to have the campers use the dumping station at the Granite Falls Wastewater treatment plant. The treatment plant is in close proximity to Memorial Park.



Campground and paybox.

Main Picnic Shelter Improvements

The main picnic shelter in Memorial Park was built in 1937 and has seen no substantial improvements since it was initially built. It is a Prairie Style-influenced building that measures about 40' by 80'. The proposed improvements to this facility include only repairs to the roof to maintain and preserve the structure.



The Main Shelter built in 1937

Playground Area Improvements

Picnic and grill area improvements are needed near the playground, in potential tent camping areas and in campground improvement areas. The playground currently near the main shelter should be moved to a different location since the road and parking separate the playground and the shelter area. Any new location should take into account the historic nature of the shelter building and put far enough away to not detract from events and the shelter itself.



The playground near the main shelter

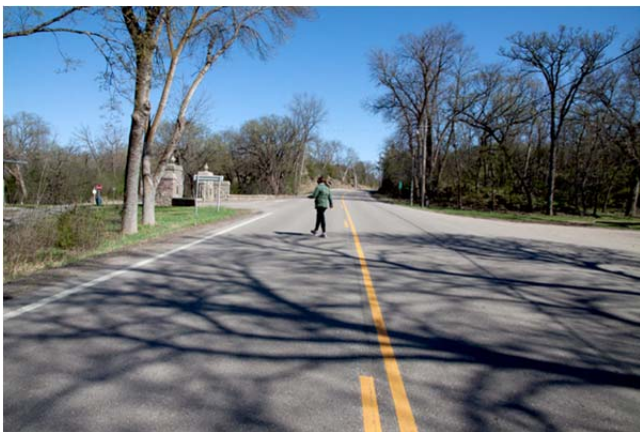
Pedestrian Safety Improvements

The main parking lot in Memorial Park is on the south side of Hwy 67. Safety improvements are needed for people walking to the shelter or river. There is an underpass that is currently not maintained and would not likely meet MnDOT ADA requirements.

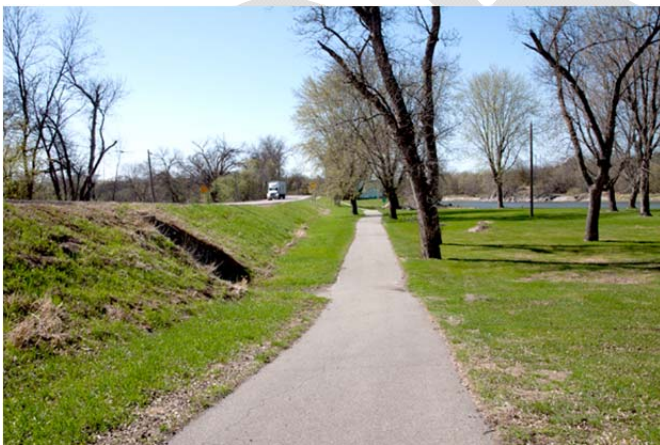
Potential improvements include:

- Crosswalk with flashing light.
- Clean and add signage to underpass.
- Pedestrian bridge over Hwy 67.
- Reducing and enforcing speed limit to 30 mph.

Other safety improvements include general lights in the park. This should be done carefully to prevent excessive light pollution. There is some existing security lighting in the park.



Safety Improvements are needed for pedestrians crossing Hwy 67,



There is an tunnel under Hwy 67. It would likely not meet MnDOT ADA requirements, but could be better utilized. It needs cleaning, signage, motion lights and trail work on the south side of the road.

Signage

A signage plan with design standards is needed for the park. The following signage needs were identified:

- Entrance sign
- Sign with map of park and trails – could be part of a trailhead kiosk
- General interpretive panels
- Interpretive panels along the trails
- Directional signage



Signage is needed throughout Memorial Park. A trailhead with maps and interpretation near the main shelter would also help guests in the park.

Parking Improvements

There is currently a parking lot at the entrance of the campground. This accommodates the largest number of vehicles for events. Other parking is available near the playground and near the smaller shelters in the campground. Crushed gravel would be suitable for parking areas and requires less maintenance than bituminous. Better event parking needs to be identified.



There is parking available near the Main Shelter.



Parking in the campground entrance area, on the south side of Hwy 67.



Open area near the entrance to the overlook.

Utility Improvements

There is a city water line to the park, but it is not buried deep enough for the winter months. There is no city sewer line to the park. Either a mound system will need to be added or the city should connect the sewer line to the park. Because the cost to connect a sewer line to the park is high, this is a project that will not be done in the short to mid-term.

There is also interest to have year-round water capacity to the park. Currently winter usage is limited to cross country skiing or hiking. Water is turned off once the threat of ground freezing occurs. Additional uses for the winter would need to be identified to justify the cost to bring year-round utilities for the park.

Electric is already available in the campground and for RV camping.

Amphitheatre

The Amphitheatre is located near the campground. This area could be utilized if it was cleaned of the invasive species, mostly burdock.



View from the amphitheater



The Amphitheater is overgrown with mostly burdock and branches. There is a cement slab in the middle that was intended for a cannon to be showcased.

Branding and Messaging

The park includes plaques honoring veterans in World War 1. The park also is a very natural area with the ability to allow a visitor to enjoy the old rocks and potentially restored native plants. There are opportunities to enrich the park with public art, unique trails and interpretation. The Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway is part of Hwy 67 which runs through the park.

Branding and messaging the park should carefully consider the natural areas, the history of the park and the history of the surrounding area. Memorials should fit the natural area and not detract. Public art can also be used to add interesting features to the park, but also should not detract from the main shelter and natural areas.

Potential projects include:

- Veterans: WWII, WWI
- Ask veterans for ideas for the park
- Public Art projects
- Public art in underpass
- Interpretation of history, old rock and natural areas
- Dakota history
- History of park

Future potential projects

Camper cabins

Camper cabins was discussed as a potential future project.

Chapter 4: Development Master Plan

This list of projects was created and prioritized by the task force with the information available. It is not meant to be a static list, but to be refined through the years as the park is developed.

Funding Sources and Acronyms

| | |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| GMRPT | Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails |
| TAP | MnDOT Transportation Alternative Program |
| SWCD | Soil and Water Conservation |
| CTA | Conservation Technical Assistance |
| CPL | Conservation Partners Legacy Grant |
| SFYAB | State Farm Youth Advisory Board Grant |
| ELMN | Environmental Learning in MN |
| GP | GreenPrint Grant |
| KB | Kaboom Fundraising |
| PNP | Paddle Nation Project Grant |
| KE | KEEN Effect Grant |
| PDGA | Professional Disc Golf Association Innovation Grant |
| EDGF | Explore Disc Golf Foundation |
| MnHS | Minnesota Historical Society Legacy Funds |
| SMAC | Southwest Minnesota Arts Council |
| STS | Sentence to Serve |

Priority Projects

The following are the top priority projects for Memorial Park.

| Area | Project type | Project | Approximate project cost | Potential Funding Source |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| entire park | Natural environment | Invasive species management: buckthorn, poison Ivy and cattails, includes granite outcrops preservation. | Unknown | CPL, CTA, USDA, NRCS, SWCD, STS, Boy Scouts |
| Bath House Area | Infrastructure | Bath House Removal | n/a | County resources and funds |
| Campground area | Infrastructure | Restroom and Shower Facility Improvements near campground, includes mound system. | \$161,000 | GMRPT |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Shelter/play ground area | Infrastructure | Repairs to Main Shelter Roof - Removal and disposal of old roofing system and installation of new Duro-Last Roofing System. | \$31,000 | GMRPT |
| entire park | planning | Architectural drawings (or expanded master plan) of all projects listed in this plan with emphasis on trails, disc golf, playground design and location, and signage design. Include comprehensive signage plan and marketing plan. | \$100,000 | GMRPT |
| Road | Infrastructure | At-grade crosswalk with flashing light and signage. Reduce speed in this area. | Unknown | TAP, MnDOT engineer |

Second Priority Projects

The following are the second tier of project for Memorial Park

| Area | Project type | Project | Approximate project cost | Potential Funding Source |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Campground area | Infrastructure | Playground improvements near campground area | \$15,000-\$60,000 | Campground area |
| Main Shelter Area | recreation | Playground improvements near shelter. Analyze location to see if current location is best place. Consider west side of shelter. | \$15,000-\$60,000 | Main Shelter Area |
| Road | Infrastructure | Clean underpass. Some minor trail work on south side of road. | | Road |
| Campground area | Infrastructure | Improvement of 12 campsites, campground entrance/parking lot and campground roadway with bituminous or crushed gravel/granite and signage. | \$90,000 | Campground area |

All Other Projects

The following is the rest of the projects by Project Area

| Area | Project type | Project | Approximate project cost | Potential Funding Source |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bath House Area | Infrastructure | Trail to connect Memorial Park to the downtown. | | GMRPT, TAP |
| Campground area | Infrastructure | Paybox and pay system improvements. | | |
| Campground area | Infrastructure | Campground area (tent and RV) new picnic tables and grill area in both camping areas and picnic areas. ADA accessible. | | GMRPT |
| Campground area | Infrastructure | Amphitheatre improvements - clear and make accessible. | | CTA, USDA, NRCS, SWCD |
| Campground area | Infrastructure | Septic hook up for RV campground (currently dump station is at wastewater treatment plant) | | GMRPT |
| Campground area | recreation | Sand Volleyball court improvements | Up to \$6,000 | GMRPT |
| Campground area | recreation | Horse Shoe Pits | | GMRPT |
| entire park | Infrastructure | Wifi – work with MVTV Wireless | | |
| entire park | Natural environment | Create Birding lists for the park. | | |
| entire park | recreation | 18 Hole Competitive Disc Golf Course | \$15,000 | PDGA, EDGF, SFYAB |
| entire park | Infrastructure | Directional signage within the park. | | GMRPT |
| entire park | Infrastructure | More and better trails within the park. | | GMRPT, TAP |
| entire park | planning | Memorial Park Marketing plan | | GMRPT |
| entire park | Natural environment | Native Planting throughout park. Need an overall plan. | | CTA, USDA, NRCS, SWCD |
| entire park | Infrastructure | General lighting improvements | | GMRPT, TAP |
| entire park | Infrastructure | General interpretive panels | | GMRPT, MnHS |
| entire park | Infrastructure | Interpretive panels along trails | | MnHS |
| entire park | Infrastructure | Public art along trails | | SMAC |
| entire park | Infrastructure | Benches along trails | | SMAC, GMRPT |
| entire park | Infrastructure | Water and Sewer lines for year round use. Consider Memorial park if lines are ever brought to the museum. | \$200,000+ | GMRPT, DEED |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| entire park | Infrastructure | Memorials | | MnHS |
| entire park | Infrastructure | Public art | | SMAC |
| River/Loop area | Infrastructure | Walk-in primitive tent sites - signage and improvements. | | GMRPT |
| River/Loop area | | The trail will be overlaid by CapX 2020 | | |
| River/Loop area | Infrastructure | Trails that connect to the east. | | GMRPT, TAP |
| Road | Infrastructure | Improve underpass with signage, artwork and trails. Motion detection lighting. Potential artwork. | | SMAC, GMRPT, TAP |
| Road | Infrastructure | Entrance sign | | GMRPT |
| Road | Infrastructure | Directional signage from road | | GMRPT, MnDOT |
| Road | Infrastructure | Walking Bridge over Hwy 67 | very expensive | TAP |
| Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Picnic tables and grill improvements near playground and in shelter | | GMRPT |
| Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Parking lot improvements in shelter area – gravel and bituminous | | GMRPT |
| Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Bike Tune up Station from Pedal MN at trailhead | \$5,000 | GMRPT |
| Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Trailhead at shelter area. Include maps of park and trails and interpretation. | | TAP, MnHS, GMRPT |
| Main Shelter Area | recreation | Boat and Canoe Landing/ Fishing Pier - DNR project | | DNR |
| Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Restroom Facility near shelter and playground area with flush toilets and running water, includes mound system. | | GMRPT |
| Main Shelter Area | Natural environment | Landscape and rain gardens to prevent erosion along the river banks. | | GMRPT, TAP, DNR |
| Main Shelter Area | recreation | Kayak or canoe rental on-site. Work with a local business perhaps. | | PNP, KE |

Projects that can potentially be done without additional funding

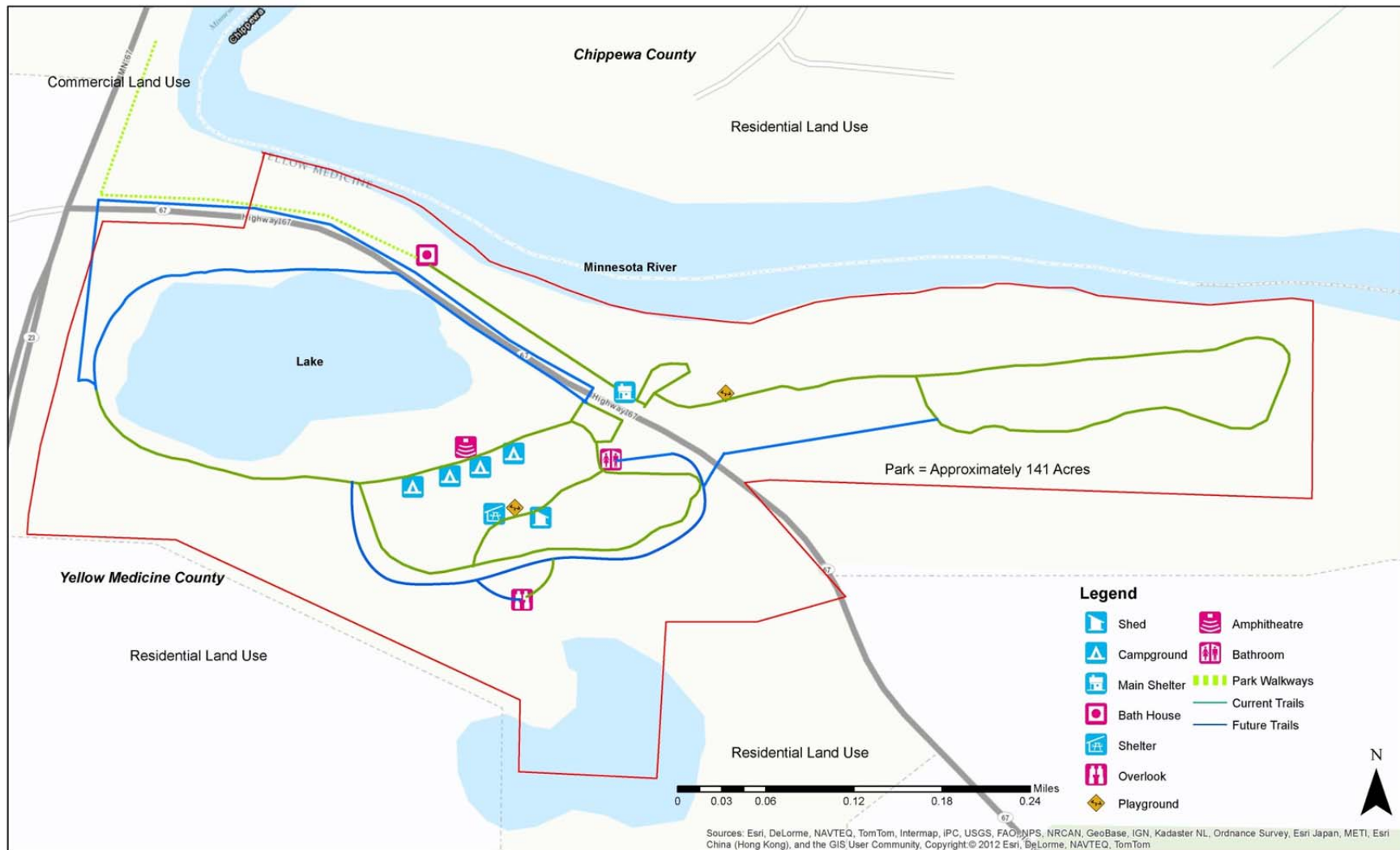
- Bath House Removal with county funds
- Meet with MnDOT to discuss speed reduction methods and safety. Consider an at-grade crosswalk with flashing light and signage. Reduce speed in this area.
- Clean-up sand volley ball court and add new net.
- Clean underpass.
- Work with Sentence to Serve, Boy Scouts and other resources to begin removal of invasive species.
- Pay box system and pay systems improvements.
- Signage.
- Install benches
- Current paved trail is to be overlayed by CapX2020

Accessibility

All projects Memorial Park will be ADA accessible.

Map

Memorial Park Recreational Site Plan



Chapter 5: Maintenance and sustainability

Memorial Park is currently maintained and managed by the Granite Falls City Council. The Park Board is an advisory board appointed by the city council. Maintenance costs are part of the city budget. Currently paybox monitoring, trail maintenance and all other activities are performed by the public works department and the city crew. The mowing of all the city parks are done by an independent contractor hired by the city..

As facilities are added to Memorial Park, the city of Granite Falls will budget for ongoing maintenance.

Yellow Medicine County currently owns the Bath House, but the land is owned by the city of Granite Falls.

Programming Plan

Currently, the City does not offer any site-specific programming for Memorial Park. Programming may be done by outside groups, such as MN DNR or CURE, in the future.

Appendix

Matrix

All projects with ranking

Restroom and Roof Quote

DRAFT

| Definitions | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------|-------|
| Project ready: concept and quotes are ready (or almost ready) and we can move forward with the project to secure funding do the project. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Urgent: This project needs to be done first, and before other projects will be possible, or there are safety concerns. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| High Impact: All the projects on this list have an impact, but this project will have an especially high impact. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Short-term (1-3 years) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mid-term (3-10 years) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Long-term (10 years) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | by area | by project | Project | Approximate project cost | Potential Funding Source | Duration to complete project | Notes Partners hips, issues, etc | Easy project | Need to develop concept | Estimates , Design & specs needed | Project ready | Timeline Short-term (1-3 years) Mid-term (3-10 years) Long-term (10 years) | Group would like to see in done/started in next two years | Short Term | Urgent | High Impact | Total |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Top Priority | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | entire park | Natural environment | Invasive species management: buckthorn, poison Ivy and cattails, includes granite outcrops preservation. | Unknown | CTA, USDA, NRCS, SWCD, STS, Boy Scouts | 6 months | | | x | x | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 2 | Bath House Area | Infrastructure | Bath House Removal | n/a | County resources and funds | 6 months | | | | | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 3 | Campground area | Infrastructure | Restroom and Shower Facility Improvements near campground, includes mound system. | \$161,000 | GMRPT | 6 months | | | | | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | Shelter/playground area | Infrastructure | Repairs to Main Shelter Roof - Removal and disposal of old roofing system and installation of new Duro-Last Roofing System. | \$31,000 | GMRPT | 2 months | | | | | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 5 | entire park | planning | Architectural drawings (or expanded master plan) of all projects listed in this plan with emphasis on trails, disc golf, playground design and location, and signage design. Include comprehensive signage plan and marketing plan. | \$100,000 | GMRPT | 12 months | | | | | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 6 | Road | Infrastructure | At-grade crosswalk with flashing light and signage. Reduce speed in this area. | Unknown | TAP, MnDOT engineer | | | | | x | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| | Second Tier | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Campground area | Infrastructure | Playground improvements near campground area | \$15,000-\$60,000 | GMRPT, ELMN, GP, KB | 2 months | | | x | x | | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 8 | Main Shelter Area | recreation | Playground improvements near shelter. Analyze location to see if current location is best place. Consider west side of shelter | \$15,000-\$60,000 | GMRPT, ELMN, GP, KB | 2 months | | | | x | | short-term | X | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |

| | by area | by project | Project | Approximate project cost | Potential Funding Source | Duration to complete project | Notes Partners hips, issues, etc | Easy project | Need to develop concept | Estimates , Design & specs needed | Project ready | Timeline Short-term (1-3 years) Mid-term (3-10 years) Long-term (10 years) | Group would like to see in done/started in next two years | Short Term | Urgent | High Impact | Total |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------|-------|
| 9 | Road | Infrastructure | Clean underpass. Some minor trail work on south side of road. | | City, SMAC | 1 month | | | | | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | | 1 | 3 |
| 10 | Campground area | Infrastructure | Improvement of 12 campsites, campground entrance/parking lot and campground roadway with bituminous or crushed gravel/granite and signage. | \$90,000 | GMRPT | 6 months | | | | x | | short-term | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Third Tier by project area | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | Bath House Area | Infrastructure | Trail to connect Memorial Park to the downtown. | | GMRPT, TAP | | | | x | | | long-term | X | | | | |
| 12 | Campground area | Infrastructure | Paybox and pay system improvements. | | | 2 months | | | | x | | short-term | | 1 | | | 1 |
| 13 | Campground area | Infrastructure | Campground area (tent and RV) new picnic tables and grill area in both camping areas and picnic areas. ADA accessible | | GMRPT | 6 months | | | | x | | short-term | X | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| 14 | Campground area | Infrastructure | Amphitheatre improvements - clear and make accessible. | | CTA, USDA, NRCS, SWCD | 6 months | | | | | 1 | short-term | X | 1 | | | 2 |
| 15 | Campground area | Infrastructure | Septic hook up for RV campground (currently dump station is at wastewater treatment plant) | | GMRPT | 6 months | | | | x | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 16 | Campground area | recreation | Sand Volleyball court improvements | Up to \$6,000 | GMRPT | 2 months | | | | | 1 | mid-term | | | | | |
| 17 | Campground area | recreation | Horse Shoe Pits | | GMRPT | 2 months | | | | x | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 18 | entire park | Infrastructure | Wifi – work with MVTW Wireless | | | 3 months | | | x | | | short-term | | 1 | | | 1 |
| 19 | entire park | Natural environment | Create Birding lists for the park. | | | 2 months | | | | | | short-term | | 1 | | | 1 |
| 20 | entire park | recreation | 18 Hole Competitive Disc Golf Course | \$15,000 | PDGA, EDGF, SFYAB | 6 months | | | | x | | short-term | X | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| 21 | entire park | Infrastructure | Directional signage within the park. | | GMRPT | 6 months | | | | x | | short-term | | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| 22 | entire park | Infrastructure | More and better trails within the park. | | GMRPT, TAP | 6 months | | | | x | | mid-term | X | | | 1 | 1 |
| 23 | entire park | planning | Memorial Park Marketing plan | | GMRPT | 6 months | | | | | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 24 | entire park | Natural environment | Native Planting throughout park. Need an overall plan. | | CTA, USDA, NRCS, SWCD | 6 months | | | x | x | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 25 | entire park | Infrastructure | General lighting improvements | | GMRPT, TAP | 6 months | | | x | | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 26 | entire park | Infrastructure | General interpretive panels | | GMRPT, MnHS | 6 months | | | x | | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 27 | entire park | Infrastructure | Interpretive panels along trails | | MnHS | 6 months | | | x | | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 28 | entire park | Infrastructure | Public art along trails | | SMAC | 8 months | | | x | | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 29 | entire park | Infrastructure | Benches along trails | | SMAC, GMRPT | 6 months | | | | x | | mid-term | | | | | |

| | by area | by project | Project | Approximate project cost | Potential Funding Source | Duration to complete project | Notes Partners hips, issues, etc | Easy project | Need to develop concept | Estimates , Design & specs needed | Project ready | Timeline Short-term (1-3 years) Mid-term (3-10 years) Long-term (10 years) | Group would like to see in done/started in next two years | Short Term | Urgent | High Impact | Total |
|----|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------|-------|
| 30 | entire park | Infrastructure | Water and Sewer lines for year round use. Consider Memorial park if lines are ever brought to the museum | \$200,000+ | GMRPT, DEED | 6 months | | | x | | | long-term | X | | | | |
| 31 | entire park | Infrastructure | Memorials | | MnHS | | | | x | | | long-term | | | | | |
| 32 | entire park | Infrastructure | Public art | | SMAC | 12 months | | | x | | | long-term | | | | | |
| 33 | River/Loop area | Infrastructure | Walk-in primitive tent sites - signage and improvements. | | GMRPT | 6 months | | | x | x | | short-term | X | 1 | | | 1 |
| 34 | River/Loop area | | The trail will be overlaid by CapX 2020 | | | 12 months | CapX 2020 | | | | 1 | short-term | | 1 | | | 2 |
| 35 | River/Loop area | Infrastructure | Trails that connect to the east. | | GMRPT, TAP | | | | x | | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 36 | Road | Infrastructure | Improve underpass with signage, artwork and trails. Motion detection lighting. Potential artwork. | | SMAC, GMRPT TAP | 6 months | | | | x | 1 | short-term | | 1 | | 1 | 3 |
| 37 | Road | Infrastructure | Entrance sign | | GMRPT | 2 months | | | | x | | short-term | | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| 38 | Road | Infrastructure | Directional signage from road | | GMRPT, MnDOT | 6 months | | | | x | | short-term | | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| 39 | Road | Infrastructure | Walking Bridge over Hwy 67 | very expensive | TAP | | | | x | x | | long-term | | | | | |
| 40 | Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Picnic tables and grill improvements near playground and in shelter | | GMRPT | 2 months | | | | x | | short-term | | 1 | | | 1 |
| 41 | Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Parking lot improvements in shelter area – gravel and bituminous | | GMRPT | | | | | x | | short-term | | 1 | | | 1 |
| 42 | Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Bike Tune up Station from Pedal MN at trailhead | \$5,000 | GMRPT | 2 months | | | x | | | short-term | | 1 | | | 1 |
| 43 | Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Trailhead at shelter area. Include maps of park and trails and interpretation. | | TAP, MnHS, GMRPT | 12 months | | | | | | short-term | X | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| 44 | Main Shelter Area | recreation | Boat and Canoe Landing/ Fishing Pier - DNR project | | DNR | | DNR will lead this project. | | | x | 1 | mid-term | | | | | 1 |
| 45 | Main Shelter Area | Infrastructure | Restroom Facility near shelter and playground area with flush toilets and running water, includes mound system | | GMRPT | 6 months | | | | x | | mid-term | X | | | | |
| 46 | Main Shelter Area | Natural environment | Landscape and rain gardens to prevent erosion along the river banks. | | GMRPT, TAP, DNR | 6 months | DNR | | x | | | mid-term | | | | | |
| 47 | Main Shelter Area | recreation | Kayak or canoe rental on-site. Work with a local business perhaps. | | PNP, KE | 2 months | | | x | | | long-term | | | | | |

Bill Lavin

From: Halgerson, Ronald D <HalgersonRD@teamtsp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 2:48 PM
To: Bill Lavin (bill.lavin@granitefalls.com)
Subject: Memorial Park - Proposed Restroom/Shower Facility
Attachments: scan.pdf

Bill,

See the attached floor plan for a proposed replacement restroom/shower facility for Memorial Park. This facility must be durable, easy to maintain, well lighted and abuse resistant. It's general features include:

- Men's – toilet, urinal, 2 sinks and shower stall
- Women's – 2 toilets, 2 sinks and shower stall
- Masonry walls
- ADA compliant
- Heating and ventilation system
- Abuse resistant fixtures, toilet and shower partitions
- Motion activated toilets, urinals and sinks
- Electric hand dryers
- Water heater
- Janitor's utility sink
- Floor drains

The park area has no piped sanitary sewer so a "mound" type system is recommended by Dave Berryman.

Demolition of the existing building and construction of the new restroom/ shower facility is estimated at \$119,000 and the "mound" sanitary system is estimated at \$20,000 - \$22,000 for a total estimated construction cost of \$139,000 - \$141,000. It's assumed that there will be some rock excavation /clearing necessary.

Please call with questions/comments.....

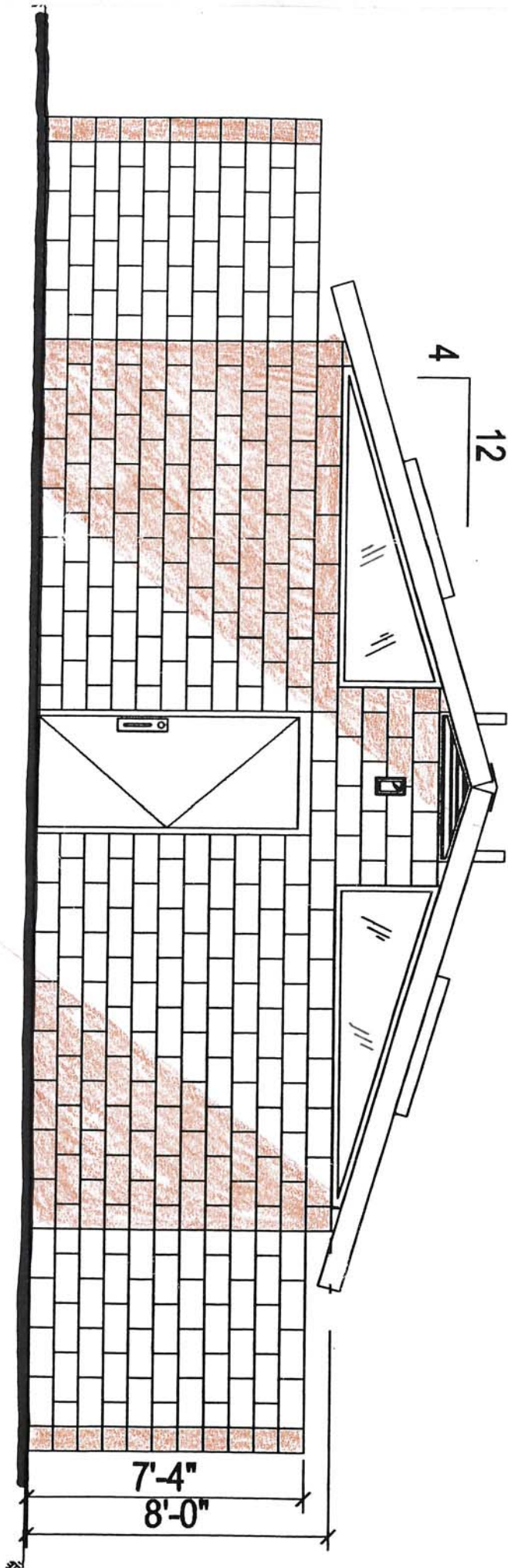
Ron

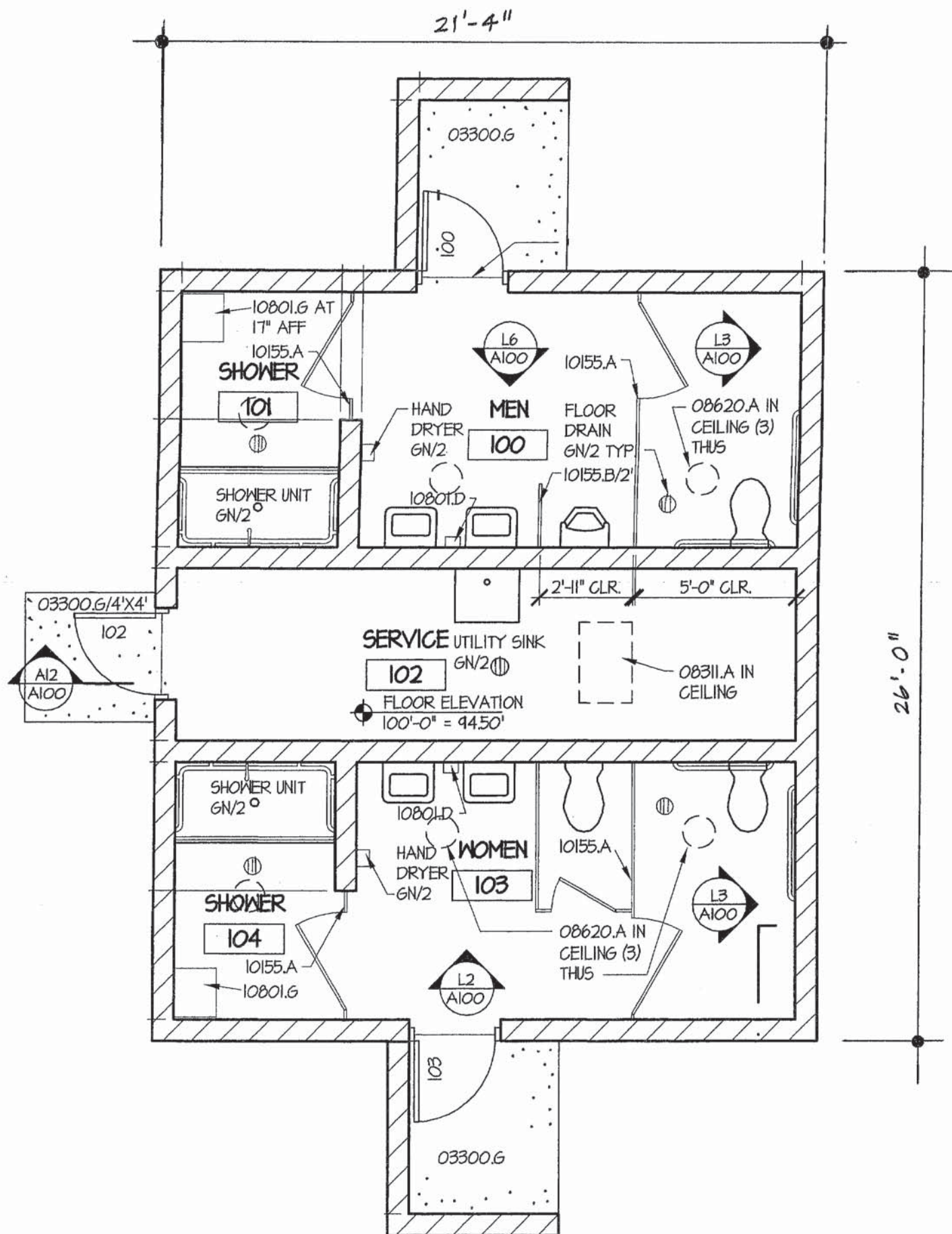
Ronald D. Halgerson, AIA
Managing Principal /Architect

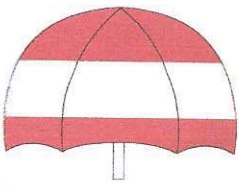
TSP

phone (507) 537-1511

FRONT VIEW







West Central Roofing

P.O. Box 1292 - 4030 Hwy 71 NE
Willmar, MN 56201

Lic. #: 20627812 • www.westcentralroofing.net

(320) 235-8748

(800) 675-8748

Fax (320) 214-7334

License# RR627812

CONTRACT# 2469

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO: City of Granite Falls 641 Prentice St Granite Falls, MN 56241 | | CONTACT: Bill | DATE: 2/24/2014 |
| | | JOB NAME: Park North of 67, 4089 SqFt, Duro-Last | |
| | | JOB LOCATION: 641 Prentice St, Granite Falls, MN | |
| HOME PHONE: | WORK PHONE: (320) 564-3511 | ESTIMATOR: Kal Torkelson | FAX: |

We hereby submit specifications and estimates for:

- (1) - Tear off old membrane to the deck and dispose of
- (2) - Sweep and clean debris from the roof
- (3) - Installation of Fan Fold Insulation
- (4) - Duro-Last Roofing System, White, Tan or, Gray
- (5) - Secure all the edges
- (6) - Boots at vents
- (7) - Flash Chimney
- (8) - Install new colored edge
- (9) - 15 year Labor and Materials Warranty by Manufacturer
- (10) - OWNER TO PROVIDE BUILDING PERMIT

NOTE: - South side will need concrete work
- Add \$1,900.00 for 50 mil and 20 year warranty

~~We~~ **Propose** hereby to furnish material and labor - complete in accordance with above specifications, for the sum of:

Thirty One Thousand Fifty Nine Dollars And Seventy Eight Cents

dollars (\$31,059.78).

Payment to be made as follows: Down Payment of 1/3 is required before work will begin, balance due upon completion

All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work to be completed in a workmanlike manner according to standard practices. Any alteration or deviation from above specification involving extra costs will be executed only upon written orders, and will become an extra charge over and above the estimate. Replacement of damaged decking or insulation to be completed on a labor and materials basis. All agreements contingent upon strikes, accidents or delays beyond our control. Owner to carry fire, tornado and other necessary insurance.

Authorized Signature

Kal Torkelson

Note: This proposal may be withdrawn by us if not accepted within 30 days.

Acceptance of Proposal:

The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above. A 1 1/2% (18% APR) late fee will be charged on all unpaid balances over 30 days. In event of default by buyer, buyer agrees to pay all costs of collection including reasonable attorneys fees in addition to other damages incurred by seller.

Date of Acceptance: _____

Signature _____

Signature _____