



City of Green Lake

6/2022 - 6/2027

Comprehensive Park & Outdoor Recreation Plan

Progress Update November 2025

Purpose of the Plan...

The City of Green Lake **6/2022-6/2027 Comprehensive Park & Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP)** is to provide a vision for parks and recreation within the community. The purpose of this plan is to provide recommendations for the planning period from 6/2022 through 6/2027.

So let us look at what we have accomplished and what is still on the drawing boards.

What we've accomplished with partners of the parks...and what's in the hopper

- ✓ *Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approved our 5-year Comprehensive Plan (CORP)*
- ✓ *Sports Complex – Purchased and installed new LED lights for baseball field.*
- ✓ *Secured \$508,000 in grant funds for a new boat launch and accessible pier.*
- ✓ *Hattie Sherwood Beach – graded and added zero-depth entry to water, removed old fishing pier, removed dead trees. Secured funding for permanent pier.*
- ✓ *Established a boat launch electronic fee collection system*
- ✓ *Received donation for lights for Deacon Mills and Hattie Sherwood.*
- ✓ *Added 2 parking stalls on Illinois Ave for Daycholah Park.*
- ✓ *Established a communication and log-in system for volunteer hours.*
- ✓ *Established agreement with MSA for grant writing on an "as need" basis.*
- ✓ *Removed 150 dead trees and planted 19 trees in Hattie Sherwood Park and beach locations .*
- ✓ *Upgraded campsite pads and electrical at Hattie Sherwood Campground. Had bathroom painted.*
- ✓ *Hired a new Campground Manager*
- ✓ *Secured and developed an electronic registration system for the Campground.*
- ✓ *Refreshed the Campground webpage.*
- ✓ *Hired a new field operations staff member within the Public Works Dept.*
- ✓ *Re-submitted grant application for Sports Complex/Tennis and Pickleball courts.*
- ✓ *Upgraded softball fields to include infield repairs, new baseline fencing, and new flag pole.*
- ✓ *Secured funding and installed permanent pier and ADA fishing pier at Hattie Sherwood Beach. Painted restroom facility.*
- ✓ *Held an Annual Volunteer Recognition Program. 2023,2024,2025*
- ✓ *Installed QR codes at all park locations to give patrons history of the park site.*
- ✓ *Painted and repaired gazebo near bridge at Friday Club Park*

- ✓ *Deacon Mills Boat Launch & Pier- Secured \$508,000 in federal and state grant funding. Total projected cost was \$616,000. Project completed in 2025*
- ✓ *Deacon Mills Park Lighting-Lights were donated and installation completed in 2025.*
- ✓ *Deacon Mills Park Outdoor Amphitheater-Painted July 2023, added Starlite Stage signs 2025*
- ✓ *Purchase and install an electronic boat launch fee system at Deacon Mills Park. Completed 2023*
- ✓ *Hattie Sherwood Beach Park Lighting-Lights were donated and installation completed in 2025.*
- ✓ *Hattie Sherwood Campground – Added water supply to 4 sites which increased revenue capacity.*
- ✓ *Playground Park New Accessible Playground Equipment - funding, design, and construction completed by non-profit organization Playground Pals. Opened September 2025*
- ✓ *New Family/ADA restroom added to Playground Park. Spring 2025*
- ✓ *Demolished unstable pier from Playground Park. Fall 2024*
- ✓ *Chief Highnocker Statue and garden was donated by resident George King and installed and ribbon cutting took place October 2025 at Hattie Sherwood Park.*
- ✓ *Painted trellis at Hattie Sherwood Park 2024*
- ✓ *Replaced landscape materials around Gazebo near Friday Club Park. Spring 2025*
- ✓ *Established fund with Oshkosh Community Foundation 2025*
- ✓ *Restored landscape on berm at Highnocker Park.*
- ✓ *MOU/Agreement with Boys and Girls Club was established for kayaks to be located at Canal Street.*
- ✓ *Partnered with GLA for interpretive signs along Mill Pond pathway.*
- ✓ *Held an Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner 2024*
- ✓ *Deacon Mills Park Conceptual Site Plan- completed August 2023*
- ✓ *Memorial Sports Complex Conceptual Site Plan- completed 2022*
- ✓ *Hattie Sherwood Park & Beach Conceptual Site Plan- completed 2022 and November 2024*
- ✓ *Playground Park Conceptual Site Plan- completed November 2024*
- ✓ *Highnocker Park Conceptual Site Plan- completed January 2025*
- ✓ *Friday Club Conceptual Site Plan- completed January 2025*
- ✓ *Daycholah Look Out Conceptual Site Plan- completed January 2025*
- ✓ *Installed riprap at Canal Street Boat Launch 2025*
- ✓ *Replaced windows and painted bathroom at Deacon Mills Park Spring 2025*
- ✓ *Installed 3 parking stalls and pathway off of Gold Street for access to playground. Fall 2025*

What's in the hopper...

- ❖ Develop cost-effective design for restroom rehab of Deacon Mills Park
- ❖ Daycholah Look Out- Re-do landscape materials and use landscape material to level benches.
- ❖ Secure funding and install kayak launch pad at Canal Street.
- ❖ Develop landscape plans for erosion control at Hattie Sherwood Park Boat Launch parking area.
- ❖ Memorial Sports Complex Tennis and Pickleball Courts – develop project timeline and secure funding sources for replacement of tennis courts. Research and develop partnerships for alternative funding sources for new pickleball courts.
- ❖ Memorial Sports Complex Softball Field Lighting – research electrical needs and project timeline, secure funding source.
- ❖ Develop cost effective design for restroom rehab of Hattie Sherwood Beach.
- ❖ Research and develop design for playground upgrade and path at Highnocker Park.
- ❖ Add water supply to another 4 sites in the campground for increased revenue.
- ❖ Research up-to-date project costs and secure funding for expansion of S. Lawson Drive wharf expansion from the existing pier to the beach.

The paperwork...

- ✓ **3/16/2022 The Park, Recreation & Tree Board approves Goals and Objectives for the next 5 years with consideration of the resources available. Public Works Director reviews CIP and proposed project priorities to present to City Council.**
- ✓ **5/2022 Presentation is made to the City Council on Overview of the Comprehensive Plan.**
- ✓ **6/13/2022 City Council approves the Comprehensive Plan and signs Resolution.**
- ✓ **6/27/2022 The CORP/Comprehensive Plan is submitted and approved by DNR (6/27/2022 – 6/27/2027)**

Goals & Objectives (Pages 28-29 in CORP))

Park Maintenance Goal: *Maintain and upgrade existing park facilities to ensure they are clean, safe, attractive, and functional.*

Park Development Goal: *Develop Park facilities that respond to residents' recreational needs.*

Partnership and Communication Goal: *Continue coordinated partnerships with other area recreation providers and promote communications and awareness of the City of Green Lake.*

Administrative Goal: *Provide for an efficient and fiscal administration of parks and recreation services.*

Proposed Park Capital Improvement Projects

The Public Works Department outlined priority park capital improvement projects within the planning period of 6/2022-6/2027 and estimated project costs to be reviewed by the Common Council.

The following projects represent those priority projects (not in order) using criteria to include impact on operating and maintenance costs and staffing levels, revenue generated opportunities, availability of funding, and other considerations. They include the following:



Replacement of Baseball Field lighting to LED lights

- ✓ *Project completed 8/2022, \$170,000 total cost with a \$40,000 donation from the American Legion and \$130,000 City.*

Resurface and line tennis courts/pickleball courts

Projected project cost is approx. \$500,000. The City applied and reapplied for State DNR grant however was denied 8/2023 and Fall of 2024.

Currently working on a project timeline and partnership opportunities for alternative funding.

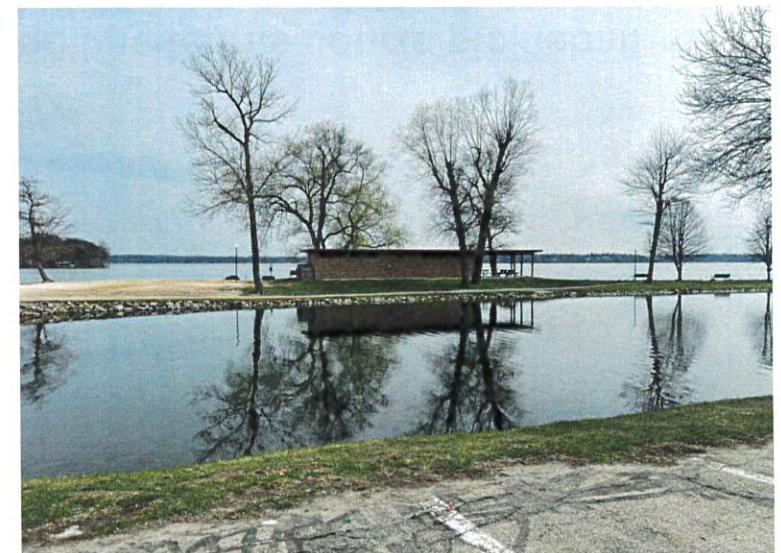
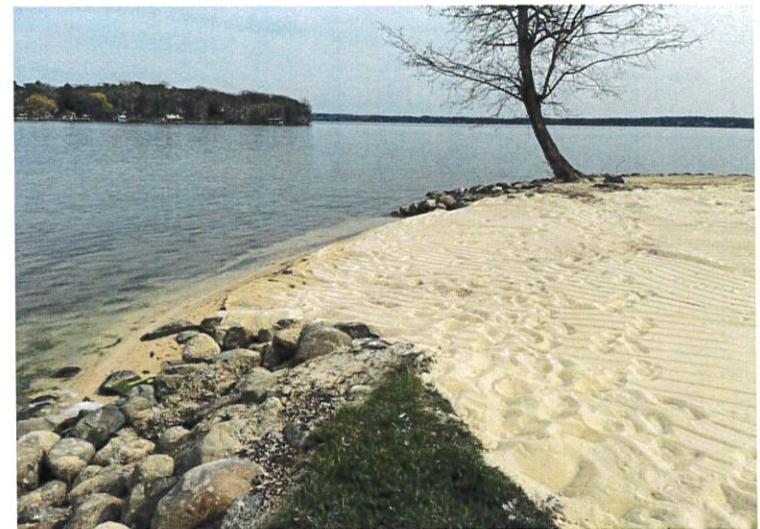
Upgrade Hattie Sherwood Beach lighting

- ✓ *Installation completion 2025*

Renovate/replace/upgrade Hattie Sherwood Beach facilities

- ✓ *Grading and zero-depth beach entry project completed in April 2023*
- ✓ *Removal of dead trees and fishing pier completed April 2023.*
- ✓ *Permanent pier and ADA fishing pier funding secured, and piers were installed April 2024. Adirondack chairs on the pier were donated and installed March 2024.*
- ✓ *Restroom facility was painted May 2024*
- ✓ *New signs were installed.*

Working on project costs and alternative funding sources for restroom facility renovation in 2026.



Replace Deacon Mills boat launch pad

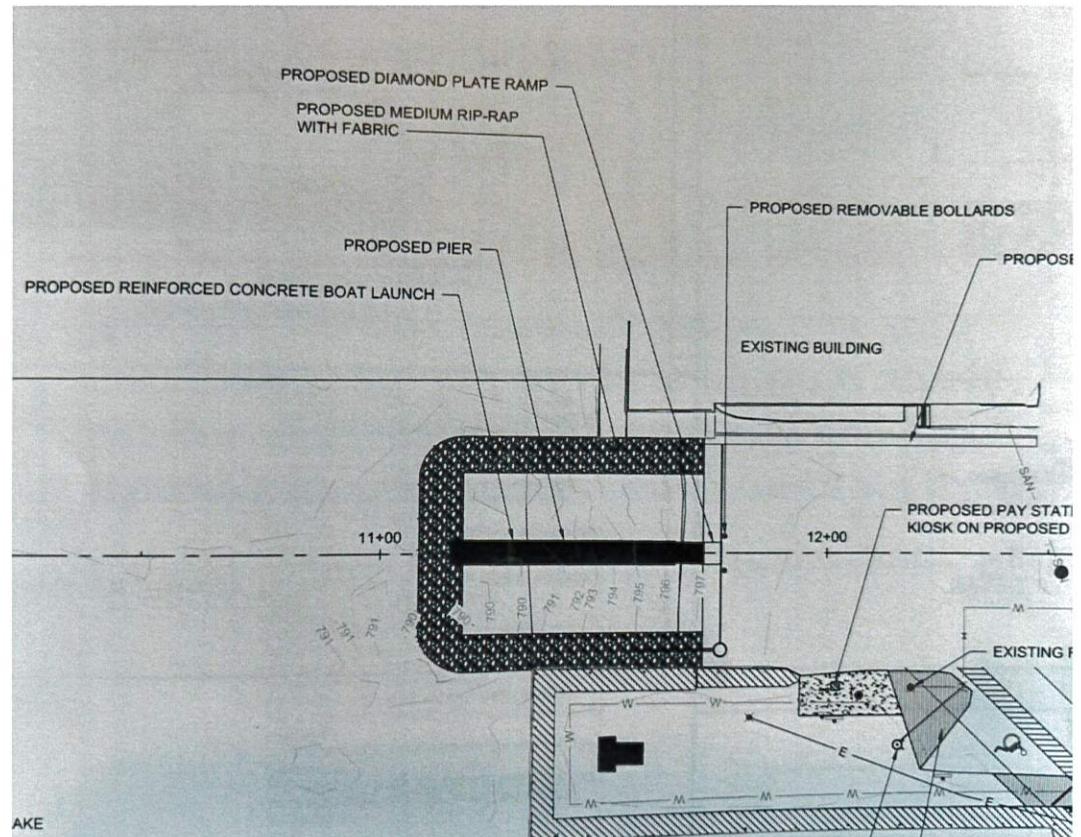
- ✓ Secured \$508,000 in federal and state grant funding. Total cost was \$616,000. Project completed in 2025

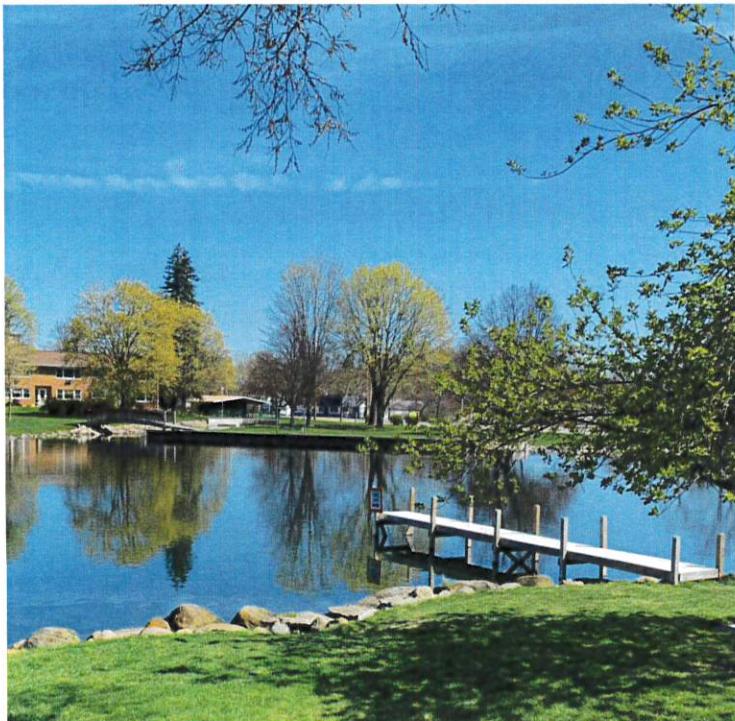
Replace Deacon Mills Restroom

Facility *Currently looking at cost effective design options to include an ADA /Family section and small concession. Working on alternative funding sources.*

Upgrade Deacon Mills Park lighting

- ✓ ***Lights were donated, installation completed in 2025.***





Add accessible walking path to Playground Park

*Worked with Playground Pals (non-profit group)
designed and installed parking and pathway
near the playground entrance off Gold Street.
New playground opened in September 2025.*

*Continue the pathway to the new accessible
family restroom facility. 2026 project.*

Expand South Lawson Wharf .

***Working on funding. Phase one
will include an extension from the
existing pier to the beach.***

Expand Deacon Mills Wharf

***Pending South Lawson
completion.***



Five Year Action Plan

- ❖ The Action Plan details the manner in which the Goals and Objectives will be met in the next 5 years.
- ❖ It includes a list of specific projects, as well as a project schedule with suggested improvement projects and strategies for implementation.
- ❖ The following outlines specific projects and actions which are recommended to be accomplished with the resources available during this 5-year planning period.

Maintain and improve Playground Park.

- ✓ Replace/upgrade play structure and individual playground pieces ensuring accessibility for all. Project completed by Playground Pals opening occurred Sept. 2025
- Install a walking path to playground area for improved accessibility (ADA standards)
- ✓ Added accessible pathway and parking near playground entrance.
- Install an accessible canoe/kayak launch site. **Moved to Canal Street location**
- Add a new picnic shelter overlooking the pond. **Currently working on funding source.**
- ✓ A conceptual site plan was completed in October 2024.

Maintain and improve Hattie Sherwood Beach

- Maintain/ensure annual shoreline restoration.
- ✓ Removed dead trees and planted new trees May 2024
- ✓ Replace/upgrade lighting. Completed in 2025
- Refurbish restroom facilities, add space for snack shack facility/space for possible contracted vendor or non-profit adding services to the beach experience. **Painted restroom facility in May 2024. Moved partial renovation project to 2026**
- ✓ Install a new pier and replaced ADA fishing pier. Completed Feb. 2024
- ✓ Zero depth/accessible beach friendly entrance to water. Completed Spring 2023.

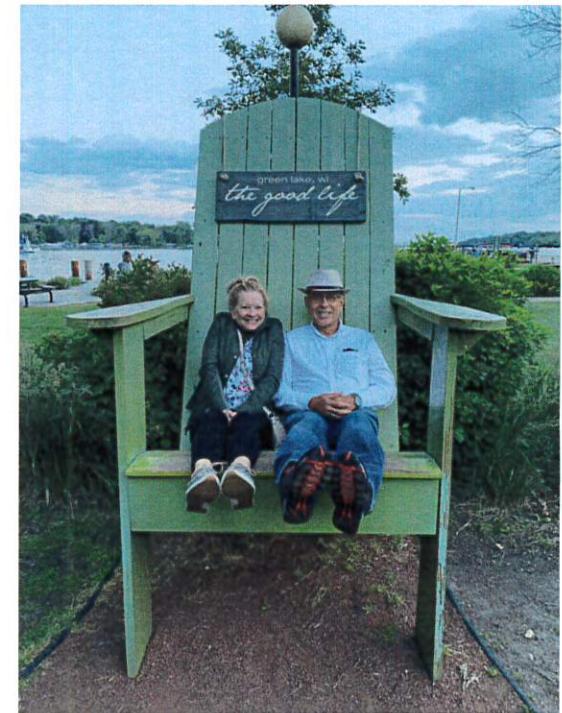
Maintain and improve Hattie Sherwood Park

- ✓ Develop a Master Park Site Plan. A conceptual site plan was completed in November 2024
- ✓ Improve /upgrade site pads and electrical hook ups.
Completed May 2024
- Improve boat launch area to Mill Pond. **Currently working on landscape plans for water diversion and hillside erosion control measures prior to site paving.**
- ✓ Removed over 150 dead trees and planted 19 new trees. Completed May 2024



Maintain and improve Deacon Mills Park

- ✓ Replace the boat launch pad. *Project funded and construction completed 2025.*
- ✓ Replace the boat launch pier. *Project funded and installed 2025.*
- ✓ Replace/upgrade park lighting. *Lights were donated and installation completed in 2025.*
- Replace/upgrade restrooms to ensure ADA standards are met. *Currently working on funding source and grant opportunity.*
- ✓ Annual maintenance on the Outdoor Amphitheater (*Painted July 2023, added Starlite Stage signs 2025*)
- Expand wharf to accommodate additional boat parking. *Currently on hold due to funding.*



Maintain and improve Friday Club Park

- Ensure shoreline restoration along riverbanks.
- Replace /upgrade lighting
- ✓ **Painted gazebo Fall 2023**
- ✓ **New landscape added Spring 2025**



Maintain and improve Memorial Sports Complex & Dog Park

- ✓ Replace baseball field lights to LED lighting. *Completed 2022*
- Resurface and line tennis/pickle ball courts. *Currently working on alternative funding. DNR grant application re-submitted Spring 2024*
- Add accessible walking/exercise paths to park amenities and throughout the park.
- Resurface and line bb courts.
- Add new LED lighting to softball fields. *Currently working on funding and project costs.*
- ✓ Repair infield and add baseline fencing. *Community group donated time and materials for the project. Completed Fall 2023.*
- Pave drive and parking area to dog park and kayak/canoe boat launch area.
- Improve kayak/canoe boat launch with new signage, pier, and launch pad.

Maintain and improve Highknocker Park

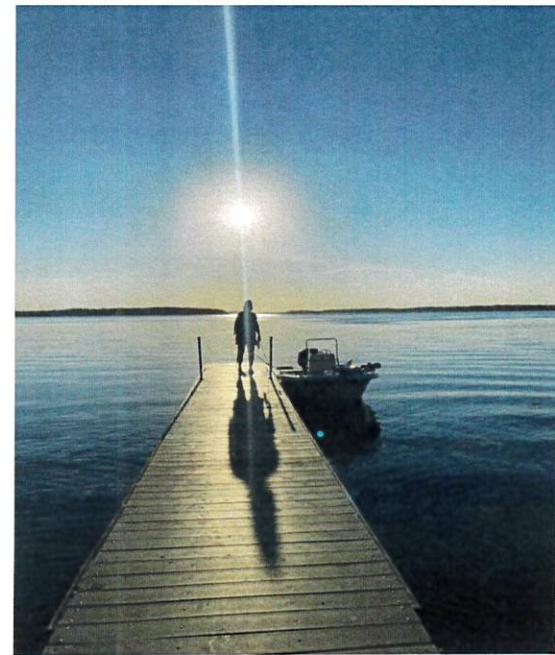
- Replace gravel with accessible path to playground equipment. (ADA standards)
Currently working on a project plan and timeline.
- When replacing playground equipment add accessible playground equipment.
Currently working on a project plan and timeline.
- Replace and ensure fall protection materials/standards are met under playground equipment. *Currently working on a project plan and timeline.*
- Add walkway lighting.

Maintain and improve Daycholah Park

- ✓ Add 2-3 on-street parking stalls with Illinois Avenue Street improvements.
Completed August 2022
- Install concrete pads under park benches. *Currently working on landscape plan and materials for under benches. 2026 project*

Maintain and improve Canal Street Boat Launch

- Improve boat launch pad. *Currently working on a project timeline and funding for an accessible kayak launch pad.*
- Re-stripe parking lot.
- Expand parking lot.



Increase staffing levels utilizing regional and national best practices for staffing ratios to developed park lands and facilities.

- ✓ **Recruit, select, and train 1 FT staff member for field operations. Completed Fall 2023**
- Recruit, select and train 1 new clerical support personnel as needed.
- ✓ **Hire a Grant Administrator to maximize funding resources. As needed basis with MSA**

Utilize technology to improve maintenance and operations.

- ✓ **Purchase and install an electronic boat launch fee system at Deacon Mills Park. Completed 2023**
- Purchase and install new field operation equipment as needed.

Establish a formal volunteer program to log hours and provide for an annual recognition program.

- ✓ **Completed system for communication and logging hours**
- ✓ **Completed and on-going. Annual recognition has been held Fall 2023, 2024, and 2025.**

Research and consider a Friends of the Park program that may lead into a foundation for the purpose of non-profit grant funding opportunities.

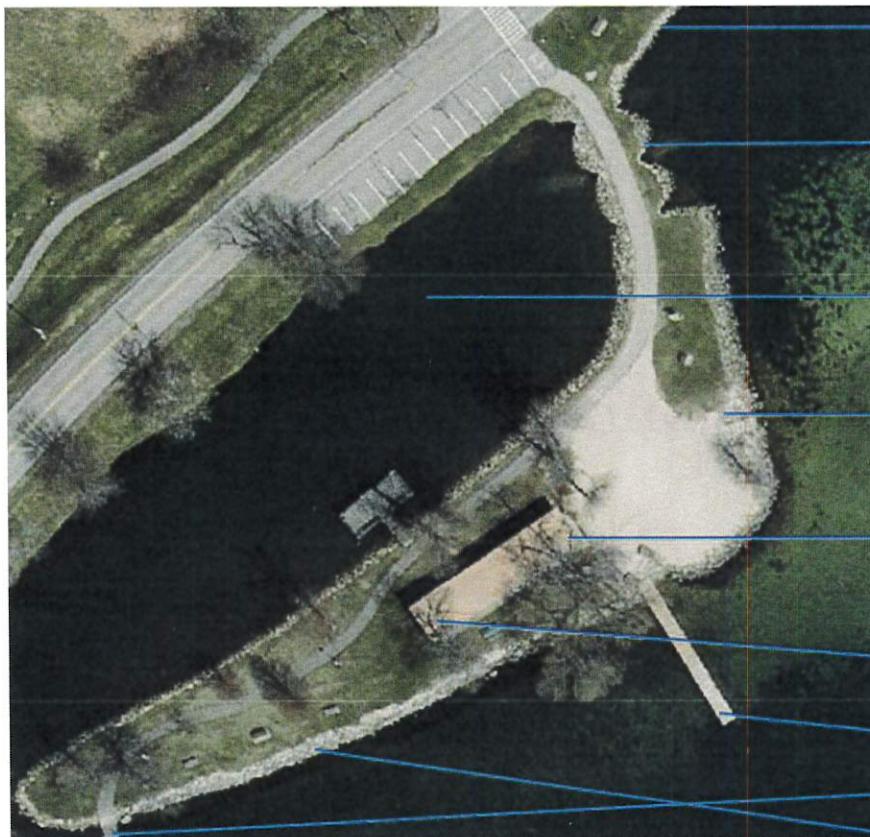
A Sponsorship/Marketing Committee has been established - 2023



Hattie Sherwood Beach Park

450 South Lawson Drive

Master Plan Concept 8/2022



Kayak/canoe launch



Demo road & install a new bridge.



Algae/vegetation remediation application.



Zero depth water entry for accessibility



Retrofit existing building to include a concession area and picnic shaded areas.



Install a new permanent pier.



Install a permanent wharf along the shoreline.

Disclaimer: The City of Green Lake has reserved the right to make changes to this plan at any time. The intent of this conceptual site plan is for the purpose to fulfill marketing objectives and future plan development.



Lake Street Outdoor Sports Complex & Dog Park

557 Lake Street

Master Plan Concept 11/2022



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Tennis/Pickle ball

Resurface, line and replace fencing on existing tennis courts. Add two new pickle ball courts. Add small picnic area and bottle water station.

Softball Field Extend fence lines and remediate weed problem, pave drive, and add circular drop off, add lights.

Basketball Add half-court basketball court.

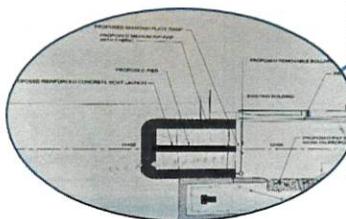
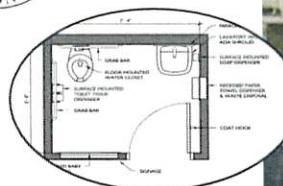
Dog Park Add accessible paths and entrance to both areas.

Exercise/Walking Path Add chat path on perimeter area of park.

Kayak/Canoe Launch Demo old pier, add launch pad and improve waterway signage. Pave road to launch and Dog Park.

Park Entrance Add entrance site signage and concrete sidewalk.

Pavilion and Play Area Add at a later date if site/land comes available adjacent to the park.



Deacon Mills Park

491 South Street

Master Plan Concept 8/2023



Amphitheater - Add a concrete pad off the front of the existing amphitheater. Improve/upgrade stage electrical and lighting.

Restroom Facility- Renovate/expand existing restroom facility to include an ADA/Family bathroom facility and small concession.

Sidewalk – Add a meandering sidewalk on the perimeter areas of the park for improved accessibility and connectivity.

Site Lighting – Add new park lights.

Boat Launch – Demo existing launch and add a new launch infrastructure and a new floating pier.

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Hattie Sherwood Park & Campground

451 South Lawson Drive
Master Site Plan Concept 11/2024



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Bird Viewing Platforms & Educational Signage-Add two viewing platforms jutting out into the pond with educational signage information regarding birds in the area.

Walkways- Natural materials to be used for level walkways for accessibility from the parking lot along the pond location to the viewing decks and boat launch area.

Landscape-There are rare plantings from the 1920's that still remain along the pond. It will be important to ensure these remain along with adding new vegetation/plants that attracts the unique birds that flock to this area. In addition, flood control landscape is needed from the hill to boat launch grass area.

Boat Launch Area- Demo parking lot and add new asphalt. Install new permanent pier.

New Playground & Small Picnic Pavilion-Install new playground equipment and a picnic pavilion overlooking the bay.

Chief Highknocker Garden-A statue of Chief Highknocker and historic information signage will be installed just west of the parking lot area. (In partnership with local donation)

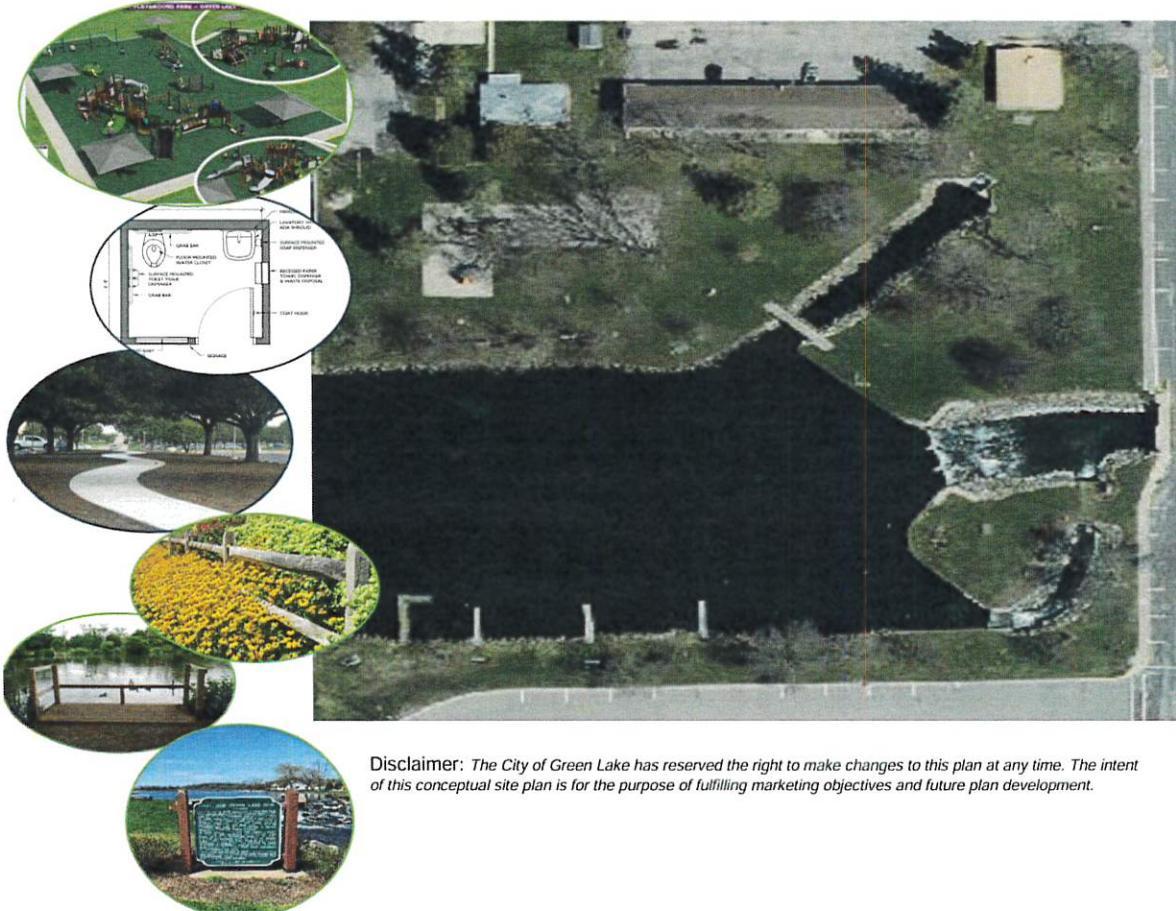
Park Signage- Add new site signage and directional signs within the park. Natural wood type materials and look to be used.



Playground Park

547 Mill Street

Master Site Plan Concept 11/2024



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New Playground & Small Picnic Pavilion-Install a new accessible playground, rubberized surface, and shade structure in partnership with Playground Pals.

New Parking-Add 3-4 parking stalls near northwest side of park near playground area.

Restroom Facility
Renovate/expand existing restroom facility to include an ADA/Family bathroom facility.

Sidewalk-Add a meandering sidewalk on the north perimeter areas of the park for accessibility.

Site Lighting-Replace four lights.

Fishing Platforms-Install two fishing platforms along the north and south shores.

Piers-Remove existing L shaped pier and reengineer the three smaller piers.

Park Entrance Sign- Create an entrance area to the park along the east side of the park with a site sign, flowers and sidewalks. Add a site sign on the corner of Mill and Water Street.

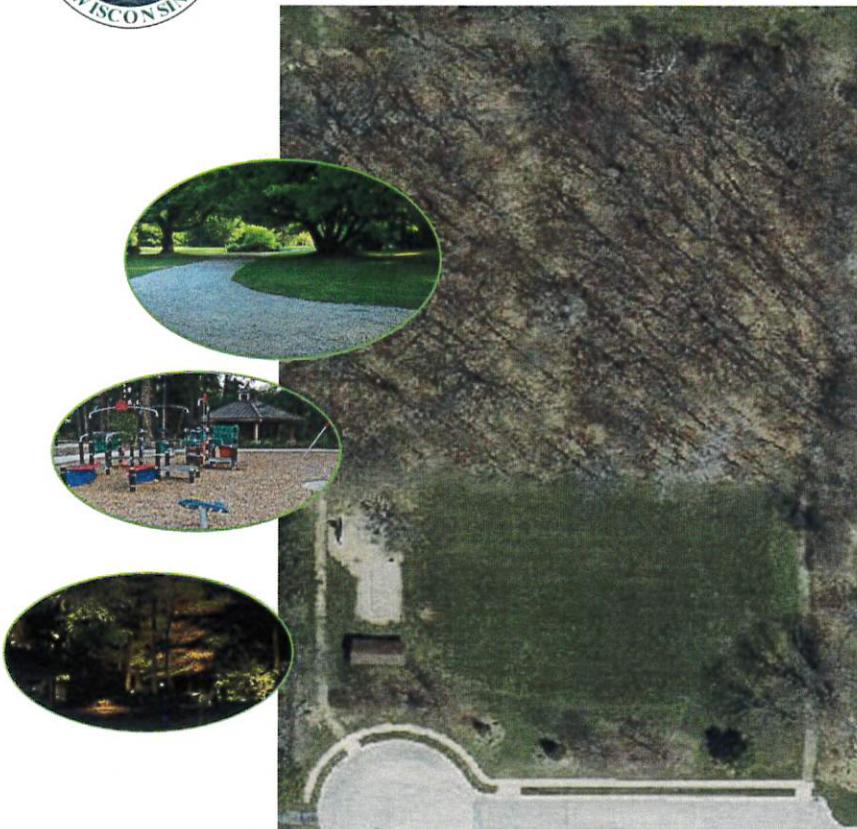
Dartford Sign - Create a sitting area/reflection garden near the historical sign.

Fence Add a split rail fence along the apartment complex.



Highknocker Park

564 Highknocker Trail
Master Plan Concept 1/2025



Replace gravel to play area with
chat type material.
(ADA standards)

When replacing playground
equipment, add new accessible
play equipment.

Replace and ensure fall protection
materials/standards are met under
playground equipment. (National
Playground Safety required height
and surface materials).

Add low voltage walkway lighting
up to Pavilion and Play Area.

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Friday Club Park

554 Mill Street

Master Plan Concept 1/2025



5-Year Projects...

Shoreline Restoration Ensure shoreline restoration along river bank.

Site Lighting – Add 2 new park lights.

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Daychola Look Out

Illinois Ave/Lake Street

Master Plan Concept 1/2025



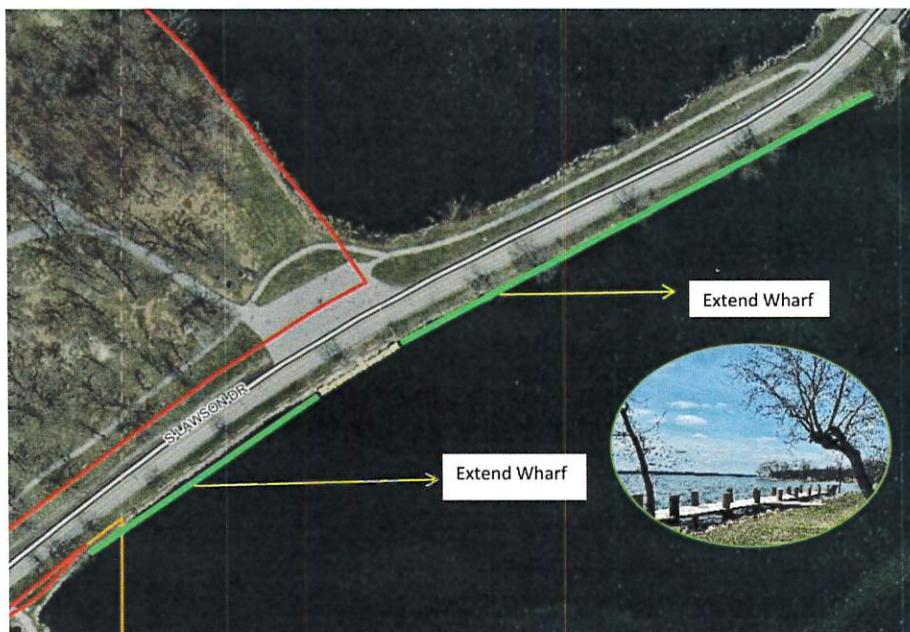
Add 2-3 on-street parking
stalls with Illinois Avenue
Street improvements
(completed)

Install concrete pads under
park benches

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**City of Green Lake
South Lawson Drive Wharf
Master Concept Plan 10/2022**



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Estimated project cost: \$380,000.00



The future continues to be bright for the City of Green Lake Parks and Outdoor Recreation!

Benefits of parks and recreation for our community...Economic...Social...and Personal Health Benefits

We value community partnerships...strength in working together!

Embracing the history of our area and working toward the future!

