

# Bicycle, Pedestrian and Greenway Advisory Committee (BPGAC)

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 – 6:00PM

Grand Forks City Hall, 255 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, room A102

## Meeting Notes

Larry Hagen, Turtle River State Park  
Scott Roche  
Christian Danielson, GF Engineering dept.

Teri Kouba, MPO  
Richard O'Connor  
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

### I. Bikeway & Pedestrian Items

- a. **Bikeway Map:** The deadline for submitting edits to the 2022 bikeway map is March 4. Edits can be sent to Teri at [teri.kouba@theforksmpto.org](mailto:teri.kouba@theforksmpto.org).
- b. **Bike and Ped Plan:** The Request for Proposals (RFP) was released at the end of January and staff is waiting for proposals. The deadline for submission is March 4. A steering committee will review the proposals in mid-March with the goal of hiring a consultant soon after to keep the process moving forward.

Teri is looking for someone to represent the Bicycle, Pedestrian & Greenway Advisory Group on the steering committee. This committee will guide the bike and ped plan through to completion. Candidates should be prepared to commit to several meetings over the course of approximately one year. Citizens interested in being considered for the committee should contact Teri at the email address listed above.

- c. **Executive Director Retirement:** After 29 years of service, Earl Haugen will retiring as Executive Director of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) at the end of February. A search has been started for his replacement. Applications for the position close on February 26.
- d. **City Project Updates:**
  - 1. Pave the gravel shared-use path along 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South from Tractor Supply Company and around the corner on ----.
  - 2. New section of paved shared-use path will be added along South Washington from 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue South to 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.
  - 3. New section of paved shared use path on Belmont Road between 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue South and Rivers Edge.
  - 4. Rehab and upgrade project on North 4<sup>th</sup> Street from DeMers Avenue to 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North.
- e. **Bicycle Friendly Community Application update:** The new application is being announced and previewed at the National Bike Summit in March but won't be released to the rest of the public until May.

### II. Greenway Items

- a. **Greenway Annual Report Discussion:** No additions or corrections were submitted.

### III. Other

- a. **LaFave Park update:** The group would like to add this item to the March agenda.
- b. **Turtle River Update:**
  - A crew from Americorps will be coming to the park for two weeks this fall. Larry has several projects lined up for the crew and hopes they can make good progress.
  - Grooming the ski trails have been challenging this year because of the wind. The tracks fill in quickly. Snowshoeing has increased in popularity the past few years.
  - Woodland Lodge is getting wifi this year.
  - The park had over 109,00 visitors in 2021, which was down from 120,000 in 2020, but still above the pre-COVID year average of 80,000.
  - Park will be receiving American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for maintenance projects. That doesn't cover all the needs, but it a good start.

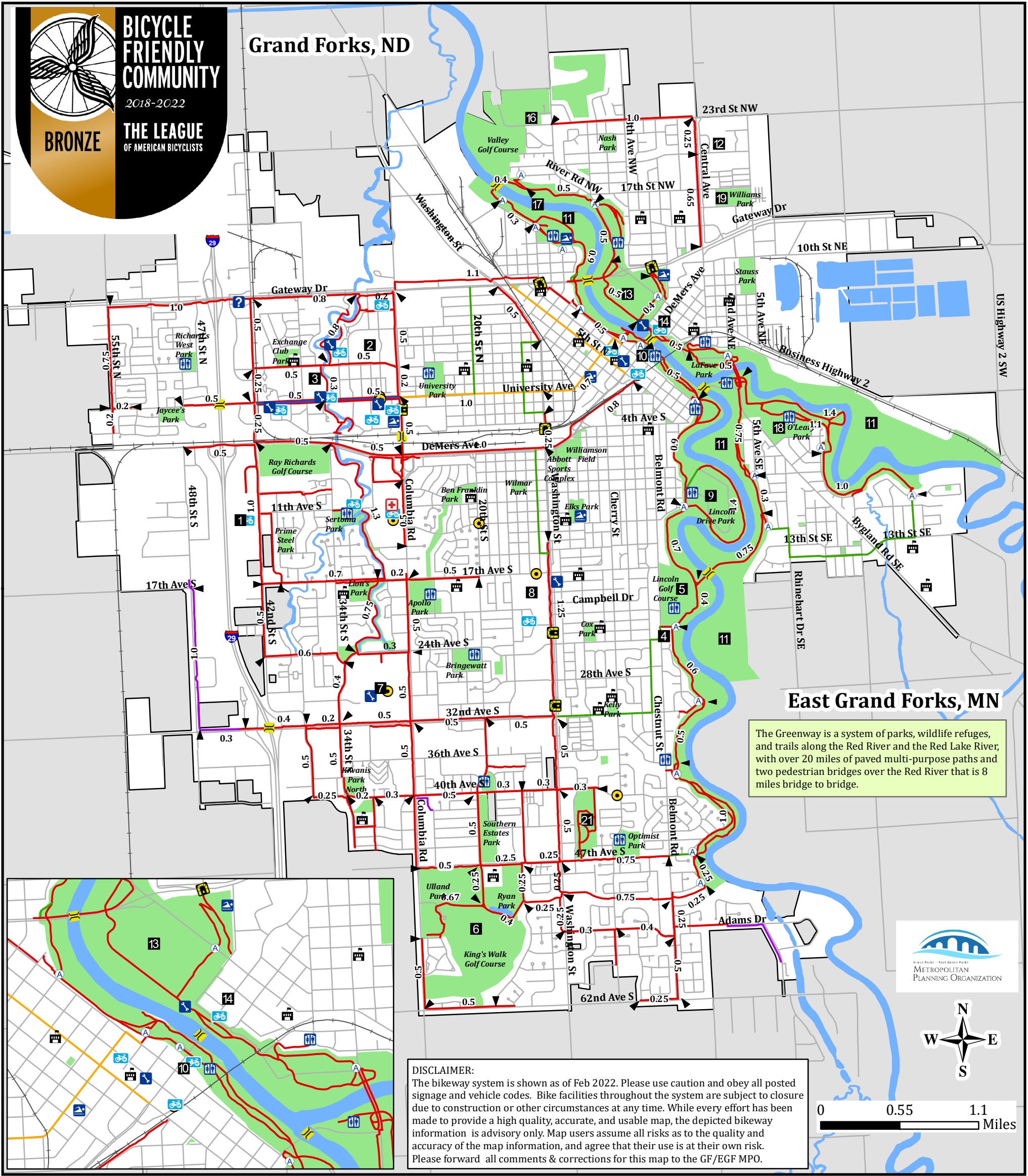
**Next Meeting Date:** Wed., March 9, 2022, 6PM at GF City Hall, 255 North 4<sup>th</sup> St, A102

**Supporting Documents:** Proposed Bike map, Draft 2021 Greenway Annual Report



# 2022 Bikeway Map

## Grand Forks, ND/East Grand Forks, MN



### Points of Interest


- |                              |                            |                                |                                  |                                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Alerus Center              | 6 King's Walk Golf Course  | 11 The Greenway                | 16 Valley Golf Course            | 21 Choice Health & Fitness           |
| 2 Ralph Engelstad Arena      | 7 Columbia Mall            | 12 Northland Community College | 17 Riverside Dam                 | 22 YMCA                              |
| 3 University of North Dakota | 8 Grand Cities Mall        | 13 Red River State Campground  | 18 VFW Arena                     | 23 Grand Forks Senior Center         |
| 4 Myra Museum                | 9 Lincoln Disc Golf Course | 14 Riverwalk Center/ Cabela's  | 19 East Grand Forks Civic Center | 24 Grand Forks Public Library        |
| 5 Lincoln Golf Course        | 10 Grand Forks Townsquare  | 15 Heritage/Railroad Museum    | 20 Zavaral Disc Golf Course      | 25 East Grand Forks Campbell Library |



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If you see a train coming, wait.

Flashing lights or a lowering gate means a train is approaching. Do not proceed until the gates go completely up and lights go off. It is illegal to go around a lowered gate.




Watch out for a second train.

Wait after the first train passes until you can see clearly in both directions.




Wet tracks can be slippery.

Walk your bike across the tracks. Step over the tracks not on them to avoid slipping.




Turn off music & remove earphones at all rail crossings.

Music can be a deadly distraction near the tracks – preventing you from hearing an approaching train.




Use designated railroad crossings.

The only legal and safe place to cross railroad tracks is at a designated public crossing.



Crossing tracks requires caution and extra attention.

Narrow wheels can get caught between the rails. Walk – don't ride – across.



Operation Lifesaver offers bicyclists 6 tips for safety near train tracks.

## Rail Safety Tips

### Public Participation

Bicycle, Pedestrian & Greenway Advisory Committee

These meetings are a venue for public involvement available to local citizens who share an interest in pedestrian and bicycle issues; including the development and use of the Greenway and trails in the Greater Grand Forks community. Residents from Grand Forks and East Grand Forks are invited to attend. Meetings are open to the public and held the second Wednesday of every month at 6PM, check the website for location (<https://www.bikingtheforks.com/>).

### Bike Share

To ride, download the free Movatic bike share app available in the App Store or Google Play. Once the app is downloaded and a rider profile is created, riders will be able to see available bikes all over Grand Forks in real time. Riders can then start, end, or pause their ride using the app. Locking the bike at the end of a ride or for mid-ride stops is easy thanks to a wheel ring lock and integrated cable.

Rides start at \$1 / 15 minutes and the program offers a variety of membership options including \$5/mo and \$50/yr for unlimited 30 minute rides. You can find out more information about dock locations and memberships at [downtownforks.com/grandrides](https://downtownforks.com/grandrides).

### Contact MPO

(701) 746-2660

Grand Forks, ND:  
255 N 4th Street  
Grand Forks, ND 58206

East Grand Forks, MN:  
600 DeMers Avenue  
East Grand Forks, MN  
56721

### Police

Non-Emergency Number

Grand Forks  
701-787-8000

East Grand Forks  
218-773-1103

The preparation of this document was funded in part by the United States Department of Transportation with funding administered through the North Dakota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. Additional funding was provided through local contributions from the governments of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks, Grand Forks County and Polk County. The United State Government and the States of Minnesota and North Dakota assume no liability for the contents or use thereof.

An unpaved trail may be provided as a pedestrian alternative to vehicular routes within the transportation system.

### Unpaved Trail

A facility separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier within the highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way.

### Multi-Use Path

## Off-Road Facilities

Is a roadway which is open to both bicycle and motor vehicle travel. This may be an existing roadway, street with wide curb lanes, or road with paved shoulders.

### Sharrows

Is a roadway or bikeway, designated by the jurisdiction having authority, either with a unique route designation or with Bike Route signs.

### Bike Route

Bicycle lanes are one-way facilities. They typically carry bicycle traffic in the same direction as adjacent motor vehicle traffic. Bike lanes enable bicyclists to ride at their preferred speed.

### Bike Lane

A shared bicycle/bus lane (SBBL) is a traffic lane dedicated for exclusive use by buses, bicyclists, and right-turning vehicles.

### Shared Bike/Bus Lane

## On-Road Facilities



# Bike Map





To access map online, scan QR Code



[www.theforksmppo.org](https://www.theforksmppo.org)



In Cooperation with:



## Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety

### 10 Smart Rules for Bike Safety



#### Protect Your Head:

Wear a helmet.



#### Act like a Car:

Drivers are used to the patterns of other drivers. The more predictably you ride, the safer you are. Check for traffic. Be aware of traffic around you.



**Stay Visible:** If drivers can see you, they are less likely to hit you. Use lights when biking at night or in low light conditions.



#### Don't Get Distracted:

Don't listen to music or talk on the phone while riding.

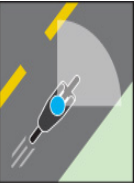


#### Look, Signal & Look Again:

Use hand signals to let drivers and other bicyclists know where you are going. Look and make eye contact. Don't assume drivers will stop.

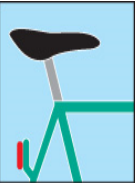


#### Obey all Traffic Laws & Lights



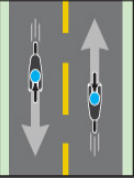
#### Stay Alert:

Keep a lookout for obstacles in your path.



#### Assure Bicycle Readiness:

Is your bicycle properly adjusted? Is your saddle in a comfortable position?



**Go with the Flow:** Bike in the direction of traffic.



#### Do a Quick Bicycle Test:

Check your brakes and your wheels. Make sure that "quick release" wheels are properly secured.



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

- Low river levels and the Pandemic dominated the regional news and affected the Greenway in many ways. Trail and park use continued to grow as people looked for ways to maintain social distance outdoors, while river access was challenging at times.

## A new look



Continue to seek ways to address or enhance the experience for greenway users. Sometimes it's by ordinance, and sometimes it's through public education campaigns. We know that not everyone will respect all the user etiquette rules, but we keep trying.

**rite?**

The city of East Grand Forks adopted new ordinances to strengthen ....

Thousands of people were exposed to a social media campaign addressing unattended pet waste.

Motorized vehicles...

The Greenway has grown and evolved over the past 20+ years and so has our logo! The new design provides a modern take on the two features that best define The Greenway – the river and the surrounding park area.

- A ribbon of blue symbolizes the Red and Red Lake Rivers. (After all, if it weren't for the rivers, there would be no greenway!)
- The green ribbon symbolizes the park.
- Crisp, bold lettering reflects a modern, urban feel, while the new color scheme gives an energetic feel that stays true to the nature of the area.

New chairperson

Thanks to Bill Palmiscino

Boating on the Red River got a little less messy, thanks to the addition of a self-serve, waterless cleaning system. Thanks to the ND Game & Fish Department for donating the new watercraft cleaning station at the John "Whopper" John boat ramp near the Riverside Dam.

Water levels on the Red and Red Lake Rivers remained low for the summer season.  
WHAT DID THIS IMPACT?

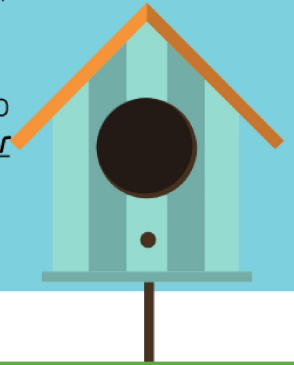
## campground news



For the first time in two years, Sherlock campground was able to open and close on scheduled dates. 9,102 sites rented, plus group site 8 times. Total of 19,679 happy campers.

No programs due to covid protocol. Programs will be scheduled for 2022 season.

And it's not just people who spent the night. The campground also hosted the first known nesting of American Kestrels in Red River SRA/Sherlock campground. 4 babies



Pool numbers  
Impact of life guard shortage

## Looking forward to 2022

Skate park phase 2  
Snowmobile trail reestablished in GF  
Volunteers make the difference – adopt-a-trail program & vine project  
Trail overlay projects  
Improvements to dock area

Improvements to LaFave Park

Unpaved bike maps coming

Stay in touch