

CITY OF MANITOWOC

WISCONSIN, USA

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Date: July 28, 2022

To: Public Infrastructure Committee

From: Brock Wetenkamp, Parks Planner

Re: Maritime Bluff and Shoreline Restoration Plan Deliverable

The City of Manitowoc Parks and Recreation Division has teamed up with Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, who acquired a grant to develop a restoration plan for two areas along Maritime Drive, the Maritime Bluff and Shoreline Units. The Park and Rec Division is presenting this plan to the PI Committee for review.

The Maritime Bluff is a section of Lakeview Park that overlooks Lake Michigan just west of Maritime Drive from Chicago Street north toward Huron Street. This plan also includes restoration of a sliver of shoreline from the Lighthouse Pavilion north toward the Yacht Club.

Currently, this 3-acre section of bluff, which consists of approximately 30 feet of elevation change, is heavily vegetated yet has a low affinity to any specific native plant community. Invasive species pressure is high with patches of Japanese knotweed, honeysuckles, buckthorn, Dame's rocket, and garlic mustard among others. The Shoreline Unit consists of turf grasses with a dense stand of Japanese Knotweed.

The primary objective of the Project is to restore ecological function and value by controlling problematic invasive species and establishing sustainable native plant communities which are representative of historic (presettlement) conditions, are easy to manage, and adaptable to future climate conditions. Increasing biodiversity, specifically herbaceous habitat to support declining populations of pollinators along with improving habitat for avian species.

Following review of the Plan, implementation funding should be discussed.