



ECKERT BLUFFLANDS PARK MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT OPEN HOUSE – DECEMBER 17, 2024, 4:00-6:00 PM

OBJECTIVES OF PLAN AMENDMENT:

1. Emphasize nature based outdoor recreational activities (hiking, bicycling, playground, pavilion/picnic areas, nature viewing) and a revised park entrance configuration
2. An amended plan with lower development costs will align with a more modest development strategy for the property
3. Continued involvement and communication with Town and State officials

REMOVE FROM CURRENT ADOPTED PLAN:

- Camper Cabins and Yurts and associated roads/trails/parking areas accessing these facilities
- Sledding Hill
- Bike Training Course
- Entrance Station
- “Ropes” play area
- New Entrance onto State Highway #35
- Hike-in camp sites and picnic shelter in northern 1/3 of the park
- Maintenance building relocated to SE corner of park off River Heights Trail (approximate 40’ x 60’ building and will include some staff office space)

TO BE INCLUDED ON AMENDED MASTER PLAN MAP:

- Reconfigured Hwy 35/Old Hwy 35 intersection with bituminous upgrade to Old Hwy 35/River Heights Trail intersection
- River Heights Trail will not be realigned
- Vacate portion of old Hwy #35 north of River Heights Trail and establish Private Driveway easement to northernmost home on Old Highway 35
- Parking Lot and access to parking lot off River Heights Trail (bituminous). Approx area of 130’ x 230’, accommodating 80-100 parking stalls. Access to inholdings will remain the same
- Stormwater ponds along park access road and parking area
- Includes gated access and turn-around area to reverse direction when park is closed
- Signage clearly delineating separate park access and access for residences
- Playground, Picnic Shelter, Cooking/Grills, Picnic Tables near east side of parking lot
- Flush bathroom facilities on north side parking area
- East Trail and West Trail (including the two swing bridges). Trails to be gravel and crusher fines with possibility of upgrading to bituminous in the future. Include sitting benches
- Overlook to River (NW of parking area) with potential for stairs to river shoreline and picnic shelter
- Active Area for Pickleball, Horseshoes, etc. on north side of park
- Bicycle and pedestrian trail on northern 1/3 of property
- Stairs to shoreline near Eckert Cabin and a secondary foot path trail
- Private property signs by beach area for in-holding parcels
- Eckert Cabin potentially used as information center

PROGRAMMING PLAN AND PARK USAGE – will be addressed in Chapter 30 (Parks) of the St. Croix County Ordinance

FUTURE DATES:

- Open House with abutting property owners (within 300’ of the park) set for Tuesday, December 17, 2024, from 4-6 PM
- Tentative - Update and General discussion of plan amendment with Community Development Committee (CDC) – January 16, 2025
- Larger public open house sometime in February/March 2025
- Public Hearing/Adoption of Amended Master Plan March/April 2025

ST. CROIX COUNTY CONTACTS:

- Jason Kjeseth, Community Development Director (Jason.kjeseth@sccwi.gov) 715-386-4673
- George Ballard, Parks Administrator (George.ballard@sccwi.gov) 715-381-4436
- John Hilgers, Senior Planner (John.hilgers@sccwi.gov) 715-386-4672

Proposed Eckert Blufflands Amended Plan

