

**Subject:** visioning session

2/11/10

Hi everyone,

Nice to meet with you Tuesday night. You did a lot of great thinking (and drawing!). I'm presuming Becky will share or email the notes to you all. If you'd like my help with some further processing (or interpreting what I wrote down), don't hesitate to ask.

Here are some ideas for next steps to move your ideas forward. For each key vision theme (Connectivity, Natural Resources and Business climate) develop an action plan (basic template attached). (You may need to narrow your ideas/actions down before doing this). Keep these themes on your agendas and check in monthly on progress. You could also do the same action planning chart for your 'charges' (sustainability plan and internal city ideas). And/or... you could review your charge and assess whether that is still applicable and what progress has already been made in these 2 areas.

If I may, let me also offer you some words of encouragement. Use or leave them as feels right for your group.

- Keep focused on the Vision – you drew compelling pictures of what Menasha could look like if it were more sustainable. Keep that front and center and ask yourself whenever an opportunity comes along, "Does it move us towards our Vision?" I would also echo Roger's thoughts about staying focused, but allowing some flexibility to take advantage of opportunities.
- Whatever the idea or opportunity, think about it thoughtfully, strategically and systematically.
- There are so many opportunities and strategies for moving a community towards sustainability. Don't let them overwhelm you. After thinking, however, one must eventually act. Pick something (strategic and sustainable) and work on it. Some ideas will have to be left by the wayside for now.
- Hold each other accountable for making progress. My sense is that in many ways your board, like other sustainability boards in the area, works like a team. In a team ideas are generated, supported, refined, and accomplished. We all tend to have our preference of role(s) we are comfortable playing in a team (eg. – I like to refine ideas, others like to generate them). A team needs to work together to ensure ideas are both generated and brought to fruition to meet their common purpose or vision.

Best of luck moving forward! Thank you for your time and great ideas. And thanks to Becky for hosting the group, and letting us use her cool Smart board! Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions,  
Catherine

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## Generic Action Planning Worksheet

Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

| Specific Actions, Tasks or Projects | Who will take the lead?<br>(Specific Name) | Who else will be involved?<br>What partners or organizations might you tap for assistance? | By When? | Resources Needed | How will you know you've accomplished it? |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|                                     |                                            |                                                                                            |          |                  |                                           |

# EXISTING PARK, TRAIL & SCHOOL FACILITIES City of Menasha Area

## Legend

### Existing and Proposed Trails

- On-Street & Recommended Route
- Future Route
- Off-Street
- Future Off-Street
- Sidewalk
- Public School Facilities
- City of Menasha Parks
- Corporate Limits

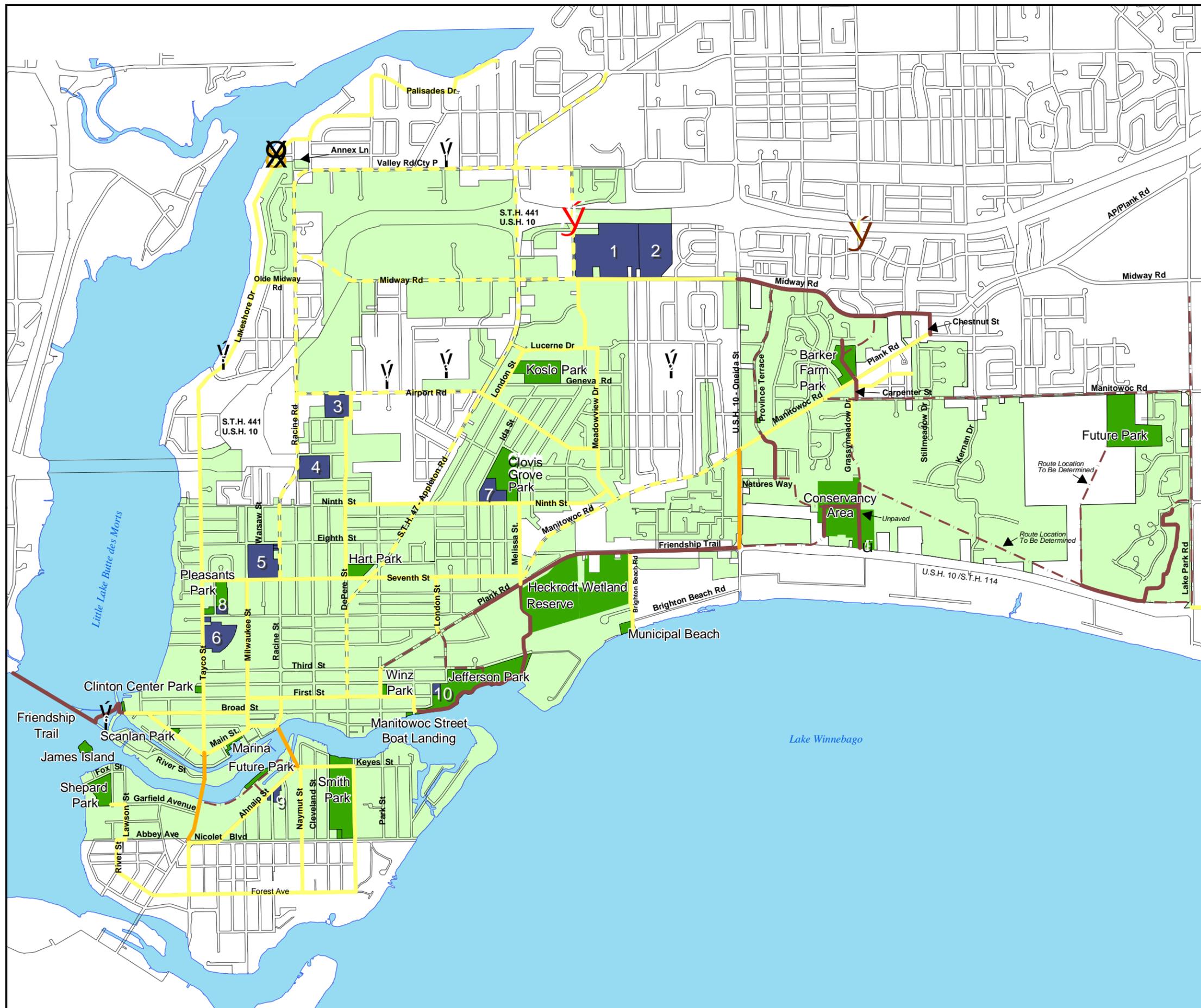
- Existing Pedestrian Overpass
- Proposed Pedestrian Overpass
- Parking
- Proposed Pedestrian Bridge

## Public School Facilities Key

- 1 UW - Fox Valley
- 2 Maplewood Middle
- 3 Gegan Elementary
- 4 Calder Stadium
- 5 Menasha Senior High
- 6 Butte des Morts Elementary
- 7 Clovis Grove Elementary
- 8 Banta Administration Building
- 9 Nicolet Elementary
- 10 Jefferson Elementary

## Town of Menasha/Other Recreational Sites

- Palisades Park
- Fritsch Park
- Wittman Park
- Youth Sports, Inc.
- Butte des Morts Park
- Menasha Lock



**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ECO-MUNICIPALITY CONCEPTS**

Introduced by Mayor Laux

**WHEREAS**, the City of Menasha recognizes that the people of this community desire a stable, sustainable future; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Menasha acknowledges that a clean and healthy environment determines the quality of life, where the environment can support and sustain the community, and where citizens are committed to local and regional cooperation and a personal philosophy of stewardship; and

**WHEREAS**, the willingness of the City of Menasha to move in the direction of eco-municipality designation can serve as a model for our citizens, encouraging economic and industrial initiatives while protecting the ecosystem in which they raise their families; and

**WHEREAS**, by endorsing sustainable economic development, the City of Menasha is pledging to further educate itself about sustainable activities and to develop additional initiatives in support of sustainable practices; and

**WHEREAS**, Menasha has promoted alternative transportation methods by taking a leadership role in the Fox Cities Trestle Trail and installing bike trails that connect the Wisconsin Friendship Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the following four guidelines were developed by the American Planning Association to help communities implement sustainable practices:

1. Reduce dependence upon fossil fuels, and extracted underground metals and minerals;
2. Reduce dependence on chemicals and other manufactured substances that can accumulate in Nature;
3. Reduce dependence on activities that harm life sustaining ecosystems;
4. Meet the hierarchy of present and future human needs fairly and efficiently;

**WHEREAS**, the redevelopment of the Gilbert Mill site has embraced principles of sustainability by reusing portions of existing buildings and reclaiming demolition materials for reuse at the site.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Menasha, Wisconsin, that the City of Menasha endorse the principles of sustainability as outlined above and that the City will endeavor to apply these principles when economically feasible to its decision-making, planning, policy making and municipal practices and the Mayor and Common Council challenge the citizens of Menasha and the private sector to promote and embrace the philosophy and principles of sustainability.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Menasha create a standing Sustainability Board to prepare a sustainable community plan following the guidelines of The Natural Step Model for Eco-Municipalities and to advise the Mayor and Common Council on implementation of sustainable practices.

Passed and approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007.

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Joseph F. Laux, Mayor

Attest:

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Deborah A. Galeazzi, City Clerk