



Memorandum

TO: Common Council
FROM: Greg Keil, CDD *ck*
DATE: February 14, 2013
RE: Status of Gilbert Mill Site Redevelopment/Shoreline Park

City staff is currently working on putting together an application for WDNR Stewardship Grant funds for the shoreline area. The project proposed for funding will consist of shoreline restoration and enhancements including a trail, shoreline plantings, enhanced access for fishing and other amenities. The engineering/design firm RA Smith National is engaged in the design development for this project, and a plan for the shoreline park we be presented for review in the near future.

Preparations for the donation of the shoreline area are also underway, with a Certified Survey Map and an access easement to be presented to the Plan Commission and Common Council for consideration in March. The shoreline donation is a critical component of making this project work, as the value of the land being donated is the primary source of match for the Stewardship Grant.

With respect to the building demolition, it is expected that the area included in the shoreline donation will be presented to the city in a condition very close to final grade, and suitable for the installation of the trail and other improvements. It is also expected that the demolition of the remaining structures, except for the boiler house building and smokestack, will be completed in the next two months.

We are eagerly anticipating the conclusion of the protracted demolition phase on the former Gilbert Paper Mill site. The Stewardship Grant will restore the shoreline area to a condition where it can be enjoyed by the public, and with the end of demolition, the balance of the site will be put in a condition suitable for sale and development by private entities.