Minutes - Executive Policy Committee – May 11, 2005

Minute No. 353
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – May 3, 2005

Item No. 23 **Master Plan for the Development of Bishop Grandin Greenway - Terms and Conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding between the City, The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc.**
File ST-7.2

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submits the following to Council:

1. That the Conceptual Site Plan and Master Plan (Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" respectively to the report from the Director of Planning, Property and Development dated May 2, 2005) for the development of the Bishop Grandin Greenway be approved.

2. That the terms and conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding between the City, The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc., as outlined in the report from the Director of Planning, Property and Development dated May 2, 2005, be approved.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Minutes - Executive Policy Committee – May 11, 2005

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – May 3, 2005

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor De Smedt,
That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 3, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the administrative recommendation and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Re: **Proposed Master Plan for the Development of the Bishop Grandin Greenway and Terms and Conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding Between the City and The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc.**

For submission to: **Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development**

Original report signed by: **Director of Planning, Property and Development**

Report date: May 2, 2005

Recommendation(s):

1. That the proposed Conceptual Site Plan (Schedule "A") and Master Plan (Schedule "B"), as attached, for the development of the Bishop Grandin Greenway be approved.
2. That the proposed terms and conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding between the City, The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. as referenced herein be approved.

REPORT SUMMARY

Key Issues:

- The Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc., a local community based ecosystem stewardship group in the St. Vital Community, has been involved with an initiative to improve the public use and accessibility to a portion of the Bishop Grandin Corridor as referenced in the attached Misc. Plan 12515.

- Following numerous public forums and community input between 1999 and 2000, a long range plan for the corridor began to crystallize. In 2001, the McGowan Russell Group was contracted to fine tune these ideas and to develop a conceptual master plan for the Bishop Grandin Greenway. The process included extensive community participation and consultation. (See Schedule "D" – History and Process). A copy of the proposed Conceptual Site Plan and Master Plan are attached as Schedules "A" and "B" to this report. The Administration and the Local Ward Councillor are in agreement with these plans.

- The Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. has secured $253,000.00 in funding from the Building Communities Initiative to complete the development of public pathways between River Road and St. Anne's Road in 2005.

- Since 2002, representatives of the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc., the Public Works and Planning, Property and Development Departments of the City and The Manitoba Hydro-

Electric Board have met to develop the proposed terms and conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement to facilitate a framework for the implementation of the Bishop Grandin Greenway as discussed herein

Implications of the Recommendation(s):

General implications:

	None
X	**For the organization overall and/or for other departments**
X	**For the community and/or organizations external to the City of Winnipeg**
	Involves a multi-year contract

Comment(s):

- The Bishop Grandin Greenway is an enhancement of the Open Space System by establishing a linkage between the Seine River Corridor and the St. Vital Parkway. In addition, it establishes a multi-use pathway system by utilizing an existing transportation corridor.
- The Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. is very anxious to proceed with the implementation of the pathway development to demonstrate progress towards the implementation of the Master Plan.
- The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board is highly supportive of the Bishop Grandin Greenway project; seeing it as a means of optimizing use of the hydro right of way.

Policy implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Environmental implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Human resources implications:

X	**No**
	Yes

Comment(s):

-

Financial implications:

X	**Within approved current and/or capital budget**
	Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment(s):

-

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

The Planning, Property and Development Department is seeking Council approval of the Master Plan and Conceptual Site Plan for the Bishop Grandin Greenway.

The Department is also seeking Council approval of the proposed terms and conditions for the Memorandum of Understanding between the City, The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc.

HISTORY:

Between January and March 2000, the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. was created and it developed a Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives for the Greenway, a copy of which is attached in Schedule "D". (Please see Schedule "D" for complete history)

Due in part to interest expressed by seniors concerning the importance of green space to history, health and wellness, the 1999 Healthy Communities Conference held a workshop on "Green St. Vital". Through the Fall of 1999 and 2000, a series of facilitated discussions were held between several community members from the workshop, Manitoba Hydro and the City. A Landscape Consultant led these discussions to support formation of the Greenway Group. In 1999, a small group of St. Vital residents developed a concept whereby the corridor between the Red and Seine Rivers would be naturalized and made more accessible to the community for self-initiated active living and nature appreciation. Through a series of public meetings, a core group of citizens representing a number of community interests coalesced and the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. was incorporated, with a motto of "*By the Community, for the Community*".

Seven meetings with various stakeholders were held between September 1999 and February 2000, which included three open houses on October 25, 1999 (20 attendees & 14 project group members), January 18, 2000 (63 attendees) and Wednesday, February 2, 2000 (103 attendees). A stakeholder committee was formed including community members, health care industry representatives, other stewardship groups with the support of the City, Manitoba Hydro, the local Member of the Legislative Assembly, the Riel Development Board and the University of Manitoba.

In 2001, a consultant prepared a conceptual plan and the group began seeking input and feedback from the local community. The group believed that the Bishop Grandin Greenway holds great potential as it is undeveloped, continuous and could become a model on how to develop similar right of ways. As well, it represents (1) a vital pathway linking communities and natural habitat areas, (links Red to Seine River) and (2) an existing green corridor linking two rich and diverse riparian river ecosystem habitats that could be used to reinstate natural habitat.

Between December 2003 and March 2005, representatives of the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc, the City and Manitoba Hydro Electric Board met to establish the framework and proposed terms and conditions for an Agreement to facilitate the development of the Bishop Grandin Greenway.

DISCUSSION:

1. Bishop Grandin Greenway Master Plan:

Pursuant to Plan Winnipeg – Towards 2020 Managing Parks, Open Space and Waterways, the City committed to the establishment of a linear parkway system referenced as follows:

5C-01 Maintain and Expand the System of Public Parks

The City shall maintain and expand the system of public parks by:

iv) developing a linear parkway system, and enhancing the system through the acquisition of riverbank lands and rail and hydro rights of way.

In addition, the City also committed to the establishment of bicycle and pedestrian paths referenced as follows:

3C-01 Provide Integrated Transportation Network

The City shall provide an integrated transportation network that supports its commitment to sustainability, compact urban form and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by:

iv) establishing a city-wide bicycle and pedestrian pathway system which is segregated where practical from motorized traffic and which creates links between open space and major destinations.

The Bishop Grandin Transportation Corridor forms part of the regional street system and is improved as a four lane highway. The location of the Corridor in relation to Bishop Grandin Greenway is shown on the attached Misc. Plan 12515.

The Bishop Grandin Greenway is bounded by the Red River to the west, existing residential development to the north, the Seine River to the east and residential development to the south as shown on the attached Schedule "A". The Greenway consists of the Bishop Grandin Transportation Corridor, the Manitoba Hydro Electric Corridor and adjacent City-owned lands.

In order to articulate the communities vision for a linear connection between the Red River (River Road – St. Vital Park) and the Seine River and to establish a pathway and associated amenities for pedestrians and cyclists, the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. engaged a design firm to develop a Conceptual Site Plan and Conceptual Master Plan for the Bishop Grandin Greenway, copies of which are attached as Schedules "A" and "B". The Plan was prepared over a period of two years utilizing a traditional Master Plan Process, inclusive of extensive consultation and communication with community stakeholders. The Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. has also produced a vision and mission statement as referenced in Schedule "D".

The Conceptual Master Plan calls for the development of a Greenway corridor, between the two rivers, which would be naturalized and made more accessible to the community for self initiated active living and nature appreciation. The focus of the plan has been on establishing a multi-use path, sitting areas, community gardens and plantings.

Coincident with the preparation of the Master Plan, the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. began project fundraising. As of this date, the Group has obtained the following grants:

Building Communities Initiative	Trail Development	$153,000
Building Communities Initiative	Community Gardens	$ 5,000
Building Communities Initiative	Education	$ 16,000
Building Communities Initiative	Trail Development	$100,000
Manitoba Rails to Trails Association		$ 14,500
Community Incentive Grant Program		$ 14,700
Community Places		$ 5,000
Total Confirmed		$308,200

Pending the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding, Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. is ready and is in a position to proceed with the construction of the pathways between River Road and St. Anne's Road at an estimated cost of $253,000.00 in 2005.

2. Proposed Terms and Conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement

Since 2002, representatives of the Public Works and Planning, Property and Development Departments, The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. have met to discuss the proposed terms and conditions of a tri-party agreement to facilitate the development of the Bishop Grandin Greenway.

The City and The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board are the registered owners of certain lands situated within the planning boundaries of the Bishop Grandin Greenway, as identified on the attached Schedule "C",

The City and the Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. have negotiated the proposed terms and conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement to facilitate the implementation of the Bishop Grandin Greenway. The essential terms and conditions are identified as follows:

The particulars of the properties and proposed terms of the tri-party agreement are as follows:

Party No. 1

Registered Owner:	City
Location:	City-owned land identified in "green" on Schedule "C" lying within the boundaries of the Greenway
Current Use:	Public Streets, Parks and Recreation

Party No. 2

Registered Owner:	Manitoba Hydro Electric Board
Location:	Manitoba Hydro Electric Board land identified in "yellow" on Schedule "C"
Current Use:	Hydro Electric Towers and Transmission Lines, Parks and Recreation

Party No. 3

Community Group: Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc.

Proposed Fundamental Terms of Agreement:

Purpose:	Parks and Recreation – Greenway Development
Term:	one (1) year commencing May 1, 2005
Insurance:	City to indemnify Manitoba Hydro Electric Board and provide Comprehensive General liability Insurance Coverage. Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. will ensure that Contractors obtain and maintain such insurance requirements as are deemed necessary by the City.
City Responsibilities:	To approve and monitor greenway projects; to provide a staff liaison to assist Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. with the implementation of its projects; to pre-approve the use of all project materials brought on site; to maintain all improvements installed as part of the Master Plan within the City and Manitoba Hydro Electric Board owned lands;
Bishop Grandin Greenway Responsibilities:	To engage the services of design experts to prepare all detailed plans and specifications for greenway projects and to pay for all fees/costs or expenses; to provide a plan to the City and Manitoba Hydro Electric Board identifying all locations for proposed greenway projects; obtain written approval from the City and the Manitoba Hydro Electric Board prior to installing any greenway projects; notify the City and the Manitoba Hydro Electric Board at least 48 hours in advance of commencing any project; obtain all other federal, provincial or municipal approvals; provide confirmation of funding for all greenway projects to the City and Manitoba Hydro Electric Board prior to commencement of any projects; enter into contracts to construct and install greenway projects in a form

satisfactory to the City Solicitor; repair any damage to City owned and Manitoba Hydro Electric Board lands and shall obtain and register discharges of any builders liens that are registered as a result of the greenway projects.

Departmental Comments:

The Planning, Property and Development Department and the Public Works Department have been working with the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. and Manitoba Hydro for several years to develop a Master Plan and terms and conditions for an agreement to guide the implementation of the Bishop Grandin Greenway.

City Departments are supportive of the proposal and recommend approval of the Conceptual Site Plan and Conceptual Master Plan for the Greenway and proposed terms and conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement.

The Memorandum of Understanding Agreement provides that the parties will enter into a formal written agreement as of December 31, 2005. It is anticipated that prior to that date another report will be written requesting an extension of the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement.

It should be noted that the Department was faced with three constraints that caused delays in the negotiation of the proposed terms and conditions for an agreement with The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board and the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc.

(1) With respect to the lands owned by The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board within the boundaries of the Bishop Grandin Greenway, it is acknowledged that long outstanding discussions to finalize the transfer of these lands to the City and resulting easements in favour of the Board have not been completed as of this date. The Department and the Board agreed to set those negotiations aside in order to complete discussions on terms and conditions for a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement to facilitate the Bishop Grandin Greenway.

(2) The Department has also been severely constrained in the completion of agreements with non-profit bodies given the previous problems with the Manitoba Municipal Assessment Act and their tax treatment. In the month of April 2005, Council will be dealing with the creation of a By-law to exempt these groups from realty taxation. As such, the Department was unable to execute a standard lease agreement with the group in this matter.

(3) The Department has been required to create an alternate agreement framework to accommodate the subject proposal and terms of agreement. The Memorandum of Understanding is a facilitation agreement that will create a framework for implementation of the subject proposal by the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. and incorporate the specific requirements of The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board.

Financial Impact Statement

Date: 21-Apr-05

COMMENTS:

The subject proposal will utilize various capital grants to pay for the design and construction of certain improvements located within the Bishop Grandin Corridor. City funding through the Building Communities capital program amounts to $137,000 (an equal amount being contributed by the Province). External grants, including the matching $137,000 from the Province under the Building Communities program, amounts to $171,200. The $253,000 in costs for the pathways envisioned will be financed from these already secured sources. The future maintenance costs for the pathway are not considered material to the approval of this report.

"Original Signed By"
Mike McGinn,CA
Manager of Finance

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT, THERE WAS CONSULTATION WITH AND CONCURRENCE BY:

Public Works Department

Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board

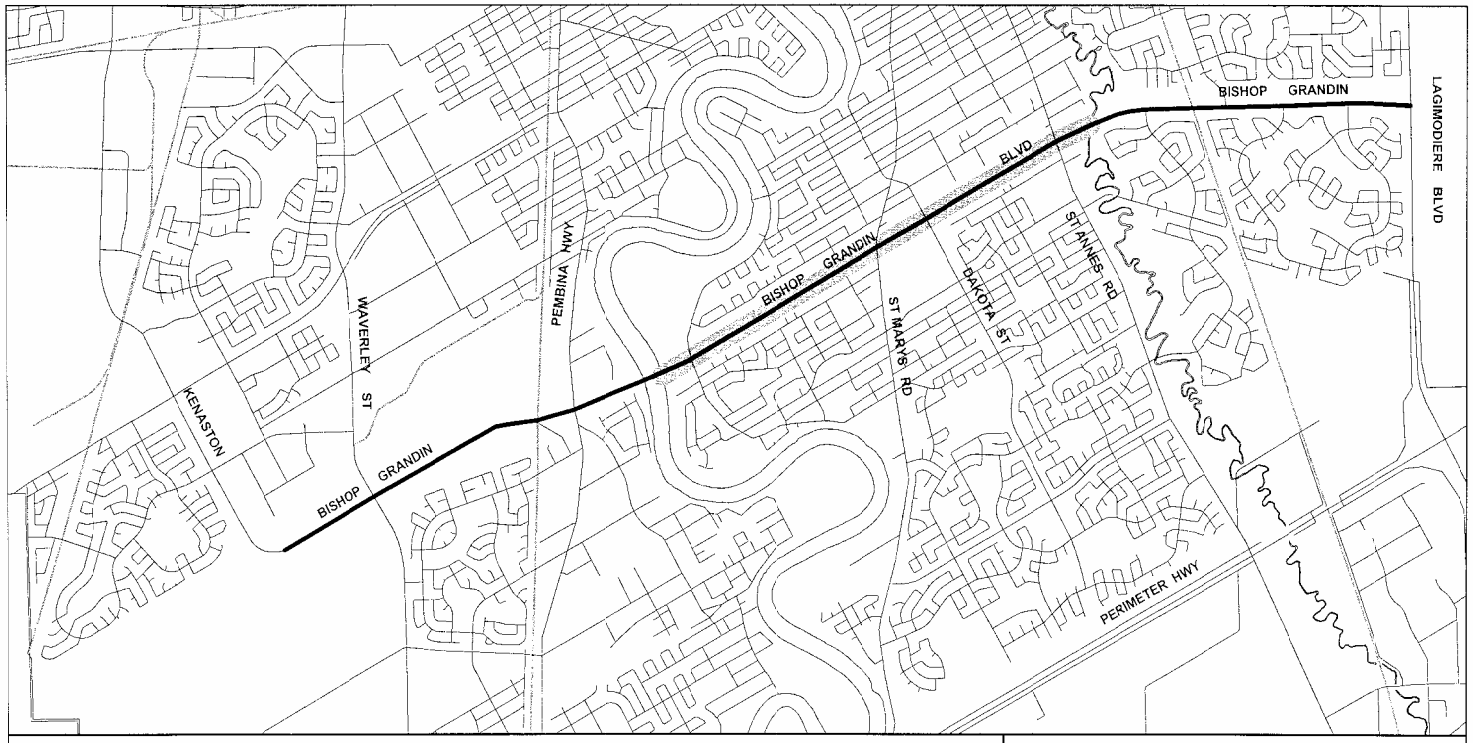
Legal Services Division

Corporate Finance (Risk Management Division)

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Planning, Property and Development Department
Division: Real Estate
Prepared by: D. Armstrong
PPD File #: S 38 SV-A/V2

Document name: o:\reports directive\real estate\leasing\(da) bishop grandin.doc



Date: 2005-APR-05
District: RIEL
File: Not Available
Scale: 1:40,000 METRIC

NOTE:
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No warranty is expressed or implied regarding the accuracy of such information.

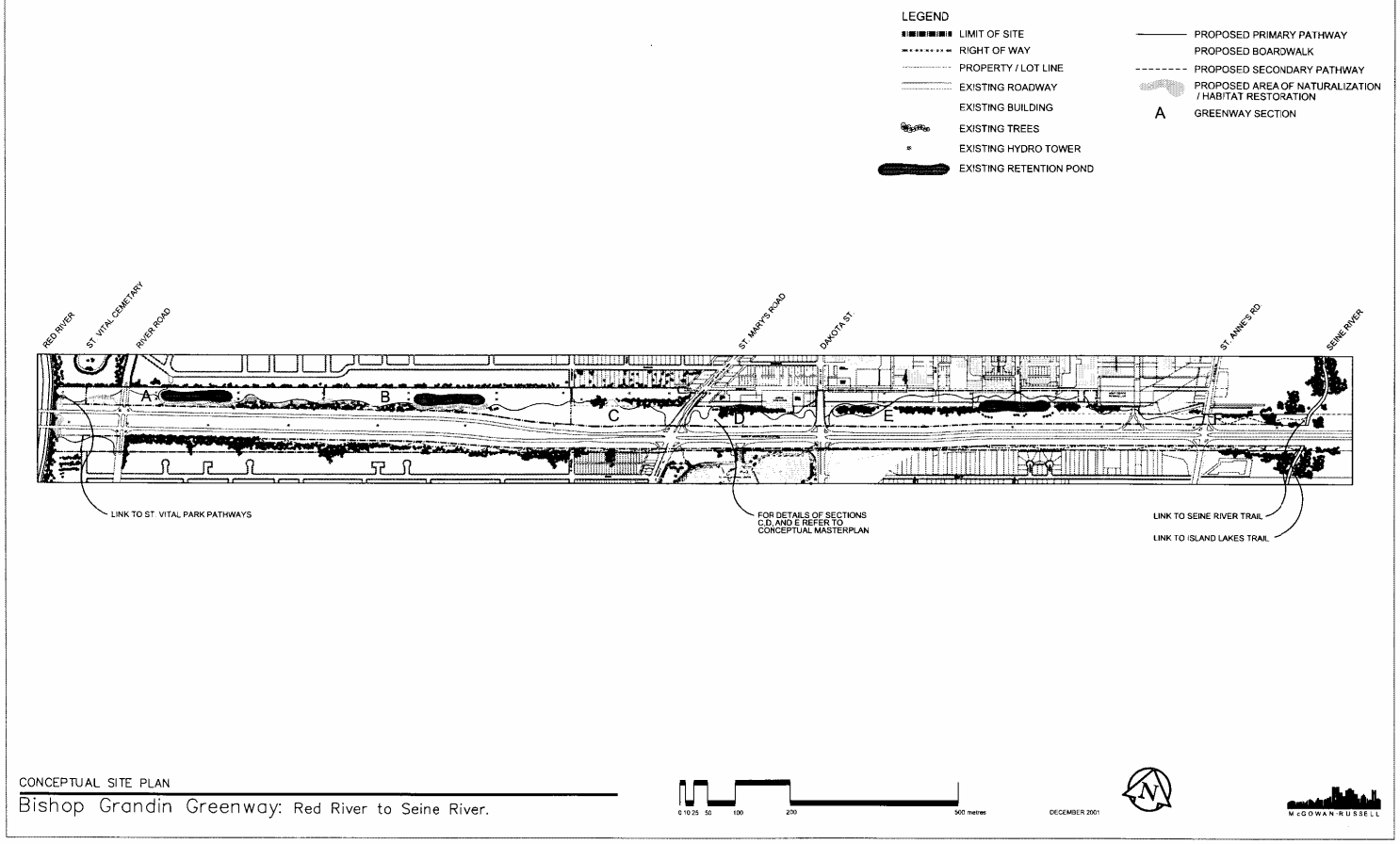
BISHOP GRANDIN CORRIDOR

BISHOP GRANDIN GREENWAY

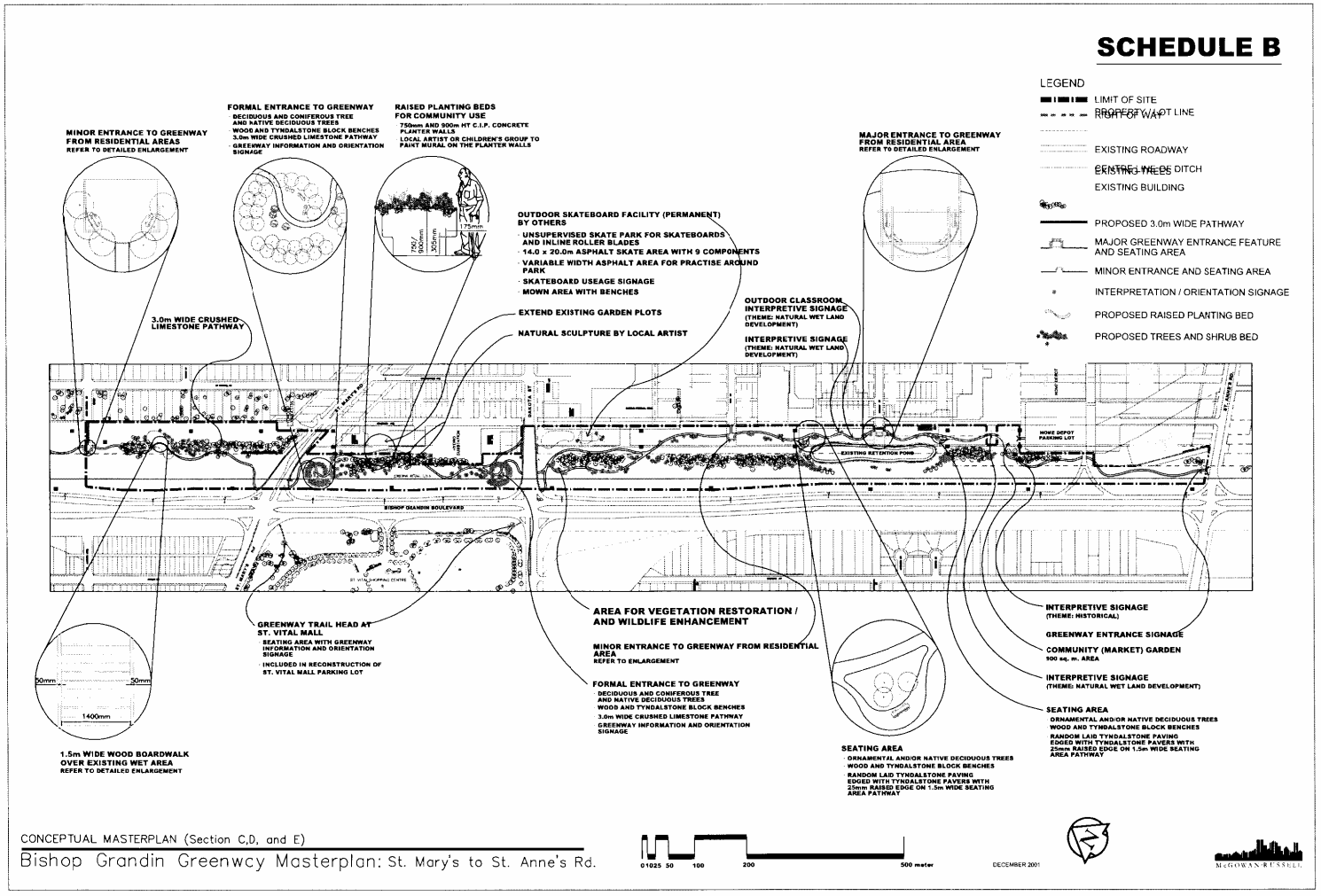
CITY OF WINNIPEG
PLANNING, PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT DEPT.
LAND INFORMATION & MAPPING SERVICES

MISC. PLAN NO. 12515

SCHEDULE A


LEGEND
LIMIT OF SITE
RIGHT OF WAY
PROPERTY / LOT LINE
EXISTING ROADWAY
EXISTING BUILDING
EXISTING TREES
EXISTING HYDRO TOWER
EXISTING RETENTION POND
PROPOSED PRIMARY PATHWAY
PROPOSED BOARDWALK
PROPOSED SECONDARY PATHWAY
PROPOSED AREA OF NATURALIZATION / HABITAT RESTORATION
A GREENWAY SECTION
RED RIVER
ST. VITAL CEMETARY
RIVER ROAD
ST. MARY'S ROAD
DAKOTA ST
ST. ANNE'S RD
SEINE RIVER
A
B
C
D
E
F
LINK TO ST. VITAL PARK PATHWAYS
FOR DETAILS OF SECTIONS C,D, AND E REFER TO CONCEPTUAL MASTERPLAN
LINK TO SEINE RIVER TRAIL
LINK TO ISLAND LAKES TRAIL
CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN
Bishop Grandin Greenway: Red River to Seine River.
0 10 25 50 100 200 500 metres
DECEMBER 2001
N
McGOWAN-RUSSELL

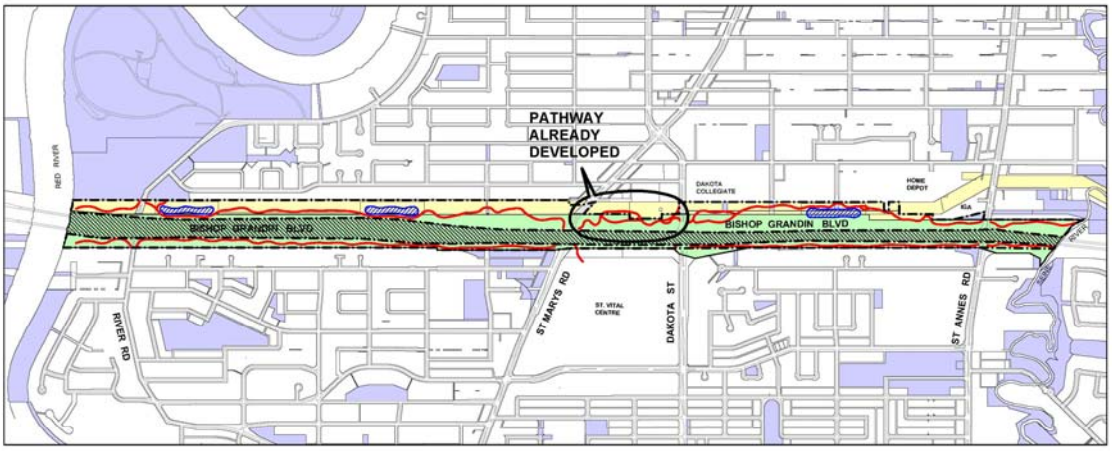
SCHEDULE B



CONCEPTUAL MASTERPLAN (Section C,D, and E)

Bishop Grandin Greenwcy Masterplan: St. Mary's to St. Anne's Rd.

Schedule C - Property Ownership in relation to Bishop Grandin Greenway



SCALE 1:12,500

NORTH

Legend

- MULTI-USE PATHWAY - PRELIMINARY LAYOUT
- BISHOP GRANDIN GREENWAY BOUNDARY LESS ROADWAY
- PONDS
- MANITOBA HYDRO PROPERTY
- TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR
- CITY PROPERTY

Misc Plan 12516

- **Schedule "D"**

- **Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc.**

History and progress to date:

- **Nov. '98**
  - **Seniors identified Green Space as important** to their history, health and wellness, and expressed concerns about its decline in St. Vital over their lifetimes.
- **May '99**
  - A **workshop on Green St. Vital**, which ran as part of Healthy Communities**, Conference** identified many issues and opportunities. Above all, it sparked the idea of Bishop Grandin as a potential "Nature Corridor" between the Seine and Red Rivers.
- **August '99**
  - The Minister of Energy and Northern Affairs and Local MLA David Newman facilitated discussions between several community members from the workshop and representatives from Manitoba Hydro, the City, the Landscape Consultant and several other interested organizations resulting in the formation of a **Support Group**.
- **Sept. - Nov. '99**
  - A landscape consultant organized and facilitated at least seven stakeholder meetings resulting in three community **Open Houses** at Dakota Collegiate.
    - October 25, 1999 (20 guests and 14 members of Project Support Group attended)
  - It was here where the whole idea of a nature corridor/pathway was explored.
  - A community **Steering Group of Volunteers** was formed to pursue this concept on behalf of the community.
- **Jan. - March 2000**
  - Open Houses
    - Jan 18, 2000 (63 attendees)
    - Feb 2, 2000 (103 attendees)
  - A series of intensive weekly meetings of the Steering Group led to the creation of the **Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc**. (BGG), at a meeting of members on March 23, 2000.
  - Directors were elected, who in turn appointed Officers and adopted the **Vision, Mission, and Goals and Objectives** statements.
- **April 2000**
  - BGG received a WRHA **Community Development Grant** of $4000, earlier sought on our behalf by Boni-Vital Council for Seniors.
  - The Youville Centre provided BGG with ongoing secretarial support and meeting space.
  - Manitoba Hydro committed to support BGG with money and expertise.
  - The City Naturalist made a promise of technical cooperation.
  - Monthly open Committee Meetings began at Youville Centre on the 3rd Thurs. of each month.
  - Plans were made for summer and fall activities.
- **June 2000**
  - 1st Annual BGG Cleanup was rained out.
  - A successful **"Conceptual Design Workshop"** was held with Professor Ted McLauchlin.

- Several Directors attended Red River Greenway Forum to learn more and to promote awareness of BGG. The Manitoba Cycling Association approached BGG about funding partnerships (still pending).

- **July 2000**
  - Vice Chairperson met with officials at Canada Day **Trans-Canada Trails** celebration (BGG now identified as an arm of the Trail).
  - **Signage was acquired** and installed at major intersections, with support from Manitoba Hydro.
- **Aug. –Sept 2000**
  - Home Depot site development activities triggered BGG to get the developer(s) to support a **"Tree Rescue"** program prior to demolition. Board members and volunteers organized and successfully relocated **20+ mature trees and 60+ shrubs (**worth more than $9000 at a cost of only $1000) within the greenway.
  - The **Preliminary Conceptual Design** from the June forum was transformed into a **Landscape GIS computer map** format for use in fall community design consultation workshops.
- **Sept. – Dec. 2000**
  - BGG Executive planned and conducted two **Community Forums** to solicit wider input to the conceptual designs and to recruit new members, directors and volunteers.
  - The Community Forums drew about 50 people, whom primarily resided in the local area. All contributed significantly to review of the preliminary design concepts put forward by the Board. The following was expressed:
    - concern that the trails NOT be close to private properties along St. Michael's and that no picnic or activity area be located in this vicinity; and,
    - interest expressed in a few benches along the trails and behind the apartments and Dakota Collegiate. These are attractive areas for people of all ages to assemble, rest and play.
  - A report of the ideas and concerns from the Forums, along with the Conceptual Design, was officially adopted by the Board and formed the basis for BGG's 2001 Planning Framework.
  - A **Fall Newsletter** was prepared and distributed to about 8000 homes.
  - Work began on developing and submitting funding proposals in 2001.
- **Jan. –Feb. 2001**
  - Several **submissions for Grants** were made to help fund the proposed work plan (i.e.: renewal of the natural areas and to begin laying the trail). This included collaboration with some youth service clubs, businesses and/or seniors groups relative to development of some of the natural areas or active living sites.
  - Planning for a number of spring and summer initiatives and greenway clean up and tree planting days.

- **March-April-May 2001**
  - **St. Vital Centre mall display** and membership drive very successful with significant donations from MLA's and City Councillors and resulted in a dozen or so new members and volunteers signed up.
  - **Annual Meeting April 6, 2001**.
    - 40 members attended with 10 Directors elected and annual reports and financial statements approved
  - **EcoAction 2001 Federal Grant submission** for habitat re-naturalization between Red River and St. Mary's was approved for 2 years and the development of the contribution agreement was initiated.
  - **Urban Green Team** funding obtained for 4 student summer jobs – application made in partnership with the Teen Stop Jeunesse (TSJ) (for supervision and administration).
  - Set up a Project Committee for EcoAction - detailed planning commenced for the work.
  - Received Winnipeg Foundation informal, in principal support, and application submission guidance.
  - Executive began investigating secondary land use agreements with City and Manitoba Hydro over the summer.
  - Began development of a Strategic Plan to guide the ongoing BGG planning activities.
- **June – Aug. 2001**
  - Up to 7 students under BGG and TSJ **Urban Green Teams** devote 480 hrs (worth about $16,000) to transplant several hundred small tress and shrubs and to spread 500 meters of wood chip trail between the Red River and the second retention pond.
  - Bud Ewacha of the Native Orchard Conservation Society, with some student help, transplanted almost one hundred wild flowers and grasses onto the Greenway near Pond #2.
  - June - meeting with Gord Steeves and St. Vital Centre lead to:
    - agreement to relocate or substitute trees from their parking lot expansion area; and,
    - to lend support to future BGG planning and venues.
- **Sept. – Oct. 2001**
  - The **Environment Canada EcoAction** contribution agreement for $25,000 is successfully negotiated.
  - October 13, 2005. A very successful river bottom tree planting day draws 40 - 50 volunteers who plant over 400 six foot green ash along Bishop Grandin from the Red River to Glen Meadow in about 4 hours thanks, in part to pre-drilled holes.
  - The McGowan Russell Design group with BGG and the community produce a "Conceptual Master Plan" for Bishop Grandin Greenway along with estimated costs.
  - **Summer Newsletter** distributed.
  - Membership/volunteer lists are updated.
  - Two regular and two special open Board Meetings held in preparation for November Open House.
  - An ad-hoc Skateboard Committee, spawned from the St. Vital Intersectional Committee, approaches BGG about a **proposed new Skateboard Park** on or adjacent to the Greenway likely behind the Dakota Collegiate under the main Manitoba Hydro lines.

BGG directors agree to include this in the current master planning process if the project proceeds. Ultimately, location gets moved to the St. Vital Arena.
    - **Lance publishes articles on our Tree Planting Day and Open House** to increase community awareness and involvement.
- **Nov-Dec '01**
    - Nov. 15 - Community Open House on the McGowan-Russell draft Concept plan and Masterplan.
    - BGG executive submit application to the Manitoba Recreational Trail Assoc. (MRTA) and Manitoba Millennium Fund Trail Grant bodies.
    - BGG participates in several meetings of Winnipeg trail building groups who become formally organized under Paul Jordan of the Forks/North Portage Corp. to develop a citywide vision and plans.
- **Jan - Mar 2002**
    - MRTA Grant is approved for $14,500 (1/10th of the amount requested) towards 5 km of trail.
    - BGG board decided they must focus the next year on capacity building; memberships; partnerships; funders; contributors; and seek support of at least a part time staff person with key skills in these areas to support the volunteer board.
- **Apr - Aug 2002**
    - In cooperation with Teen Stop Jeunesse, obtained Urban Green Team funding for 4 students for approx. 4 months employment. They focused on planting trees and wild flowers and maintaining the Greenway.
    - Oct.19, 2002 - Final year of the Federal EcoAction contribution agreement used to plant about 100 wild berry bushes near the Roman Catholic Cemetery – work done by 15 Directors and friends of BGG.
- **Sept-Dec 2002**
    - Received word that the City Public Works Department would be constructing a paved multi-use trail between St. Mary's Road and Dakota Street using Bicycle Facilities Funding. BGG provided input into the final design and location via the consultant. (approximate value $122,000). Construction of this, and other related trails, delayed until the spring of 2003.
    - Received the first installment of the Manitoba Recreational Trail Millennium Fund grant.
    - Sept. 11, 2002 - Riel Community Committee approved Community Incentive Grant for $14,700.
    - BGG Board decided to wait on details of the City's trail plans before re-confirming access to the two funds.
- BGG had a bit of a crisis in Sept. 2002 - insurance came due but realized there were insufficient operating funds to cover despite the grants (since they only support capital works). The Directors paid membership fees and got some support from MLAs. The Board made decisions as follows:
    - Decided to work on fund raising in the business community and membership to ensure sufficient annual operating funds for such matters as newsletters, mail-outs, insurance and hopefully soon a salaried Administration/Coordination position (deemed important to support the shrinking Board who are already very busy people).

- Because BBG did not receive final payment to cover salaries paid out until November, $1000 was used from BGG operating funds to cover the shortfall.

- John Shearer developed ecological interpretive signage for the ponds along Bishop Grandin Greenway. BGG received:
  - a Duck's Unlimited $500 grant to support the initiative. Three durable signs were purchased and installed in May 2003.

- **November 2002**
  - Board held a planning retreat; and,
    - decided to refocus immediate efforts on planning and organization building work in hopes of renewing the committee to continue this important work and successful community project. BGG had already levered over $100,000 (plus $30K or so "in kind"). It had another $30,000 committed for the immediate future plus approximately $150K "in kind" from the Public Works Department.

- **Spring 2003**
  - Two BGGI board representatives participated in the St. George-Worthington "Building Communities Initiative" which allowed the community to allocate about $1.2M to priority community infrastructure works. The area included the north side of Bishop Grandin and there was considerable interest shown at the community meetings in improving the access and use of the right of ways as part of the community's activity/recreational spaces. Four specific projects were recommended: a Greenway multi-use asphalt pathway from Dakota Street as far east as possible ($153K); a community garden ($15k); an Eco-education/interpretation site ($15K); and an animal waste system ($3K). The City's Design Assistant did some early design work in the spring of 2004.

- **2003 - 2005**
  - BGG Board's time from the **fall of 2003 to the Spring 2005** was mostly spent discussing and negotiating a "Memorandum of Understanding" with Manitoba Hydro (Property), the City (Planning, Property and Department, and the Bishop Grandin Greenway Inc. This agreement is needed before commencing with new and pending pathway construction and greening projects along the entire corridor could commence.
  - As a result of this delay, projects were put on hold, membership declined and general interest waned. However, BGGI with administrative help from Youville Centre, did employ Manitoba Urban Green Team students both 2003 & 2004 summers. Their responsibilities were to ensure maintenance of the existing greenway spaces, to assist in trimming and re-plantings of some trees and shrubs where and when survival had been a problem, to assist in wild-flower trans-plantings, to conduct general litter clean up and weed/thistle removal.

- **May 2003**
  - BGG Annual General Meeting held: board members were re-elected, annual financial statements were reviewed and Officers were appointed.

- **2004**
  - March – the BGG Newsletter was distributed widely in the St. Vital Community.
  - May – Annual General Meeting held.
  - Building Communities Initiative (BCI) Program (a Provincial & City funding agreement) in St. George - Worthington Community allocates $186,000 towards projects within the Bishop Grandin Greenway ($153,000 for trail development, $33,000 for related education, interpretation and community Garden projects). These projects can be implemented with and through the City once all parties agree to a Memorandum of Understanding.
  - These account for 4 of 19 projects funded under this initiative, following 1 year of extensive community consultation to identify projects and to obtain approval at the BCI Management Committee and Policy Committee levels.

- **2005**
  - March – BCI funding allocation increased by $100,000.
  - Cheryl Heming, City Naturalist advises that the site damage done to the NW River Rd. and Bishop Grandin location due to major City Sewer and Water excavation and construction works during the past winter. Will be repaired/restored by the City in 2005.
  - AGM will be on **May 5, 2005**, at 7 p.m. at Youville Centre, 8-645 Dakota St.

Bishop Grandin Greenway
Motto: By the Community, for the Community

VISION: Green, healthy and sustainable communities for all.

MISSION:
To create, enhance and conserve an accessible* network of nature areas and public pathways that link and support both human and wildlife communities along Bishop Grandin Boulevard.

GOALS:
- To link citizens, community and nature.
- To facilitate community development, involvement and sense of stewardship
- To provide an opportunity for the community to enjoy healthy active lifestyles along the Greenway in balance with the preservation of native species and natural areas.
- To enhance natural habitat and active living areas along the Bishop Grandin Greenway.
- To increase awareness, appreciation and knowledge of the area's natural and historical value.
- To engage in meaningful consultation with the community in order to address needs, aspirations and desires for the greenway.
- To develop the appropriate resources and supports to ensure the long-term viability of the Bishop Grandin greenway.

OBJECTIVES:
- To gather information from the community through a variety of methods to gain an understanding of their needs, desires and concerns and to address issues arising within the project plans.
- Through consultation with the appropriate resources, the Bishop Grandin Greenway task force will reclaim natural space and reinstate natural habitats that have been compromised past development.
- To create and beautify green spaces and pathways with a variety of plants, trees, wild flowers (e.g. orchids) while protecting the natural habitats (ponds).
- To create and maintain a continuous trail, and mini trails, that facilitates recreation activities, remains universally accessible* to the public of all ages, and ensures the safety and security of the users and surrounding community.
- To create an awareness and communication campaign that verbalizes the developments of the plans and invites input and feedback from the community.
- To create a fundraising plan that ensures the sustainability of the project.
- To research similar projects to gain insights into pitfalls, other options, as well as solutions that ensure safety and security for those in the adjacent neighbourhood.
- To create thematic venues of space that highlight active living, wellness, history, education and nature appropriate to the various landscapes along Bishop Grandin.

**motorized vehicles, with the exception of motorized wheelchairs, will not be permitted*

Approved April 20, 2000