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# Waterways and Parks Commission

Agenda  
September 22, 2021

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**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that there will be a meeting of the City Waterways and Parks Commission on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held virtually through online meeting systems and will be available to the public via Webex using a computer, tablet, or smartphone (Webex app required) or telephone (audio only) on the following agenda items:

**Waterways and Parks Commission Connection Info:**

*Event address for attendees:*

<https://eauclairewi.webex.com/eauclairewi/onstage/g.php?MTID=e77c808a15a0dd834fe71ef880e0e1d99>

*Audio Only:* +1-408-418-9388    *Access code:* 146 343 9046

1.     **Call to Order**
2.     **Roll Call**
3.     **Reading and approval of minutes of the past meeting, August 25, 2021.**
4.     **Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on this Agenda**
5.     **Business Agenda items**
  - a.    Request of Encroachment/Improvement at 1506 Howard Drive on Riverview Drive.
6.     **Discussion and Direction**
  - a.    Future Agenda Items
  - b.    Announcements
    - a.    Jeffers Road Project Update
    - b.    High Bridge Repair Progress Update
  - c.    Director's Report
  - d.    2021 Special Events List
7.     **Adjournment**

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Ron Doering, Chairperson  
c: News Media

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*Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials at the meeting to be in accessible location or format must contact the ADA Coordinator for the City of Eau Claire, at 839-4921 or at 203 South Farwell Street by 2:00 PM the Monday prior to the meeting so that any necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate each request."*

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# Waterways and Parks Commission

## Minutes

August 25, 2021

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1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:02pm by Chairperson Doering
2. Roll Call
  - a. Members Present: Ron Doering, Christopher Johnson, Ellen Faulkner, John Bodkin, John Lor, Kate Beaton, Meredith Ball, Jessica Schoen, Joe Maurer, Kirk Dahl
  - b. Members Absent: Megan Holmes
  - c. Staff Present: Steve Plaza, Carson Coffield, Christien Huppert
3. Reading and approval of minutes of the past meeting, July 28, 2021.
  - a. Motion to approve by Council Member Beaton, seconded by Council Member Lor. All votes in favor, minutes approved as submitted.
4. Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on this Agenda
  - a. None
5. Business Agenda items
  - a. Request of Encroachment/Improvement at 1430 Howard Drive for Riverview Drive.
    - a. Presented by Mr. Plaza
    - b. Motion to approve request by Commissioner Schoen, seconded by Commissioner Faulkner. Votes in favor: Commission Chair Doering, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Bodkin, Council Member Beaton, Commissioner Ball, and Commissioner Maurer. Votes against Council Member Lor. Motion passed.
  - b. Recommendation for purchase of land along the Eau Claire River, parcel 02-0411-A.
    - a. Presented by Mr. Huppert
    - b. Motion to recommend of purchase for the land along the Eau Claire River, parcel 02-0411-A by Commissioner Maurer, seconded by Commissioner Bodkin. All votes in favor, motion passed.
  - c. Recommendation to place a skateboard element adjacent to a trail section along 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.
    - a. Presented by Mr. Plaza
    - b. Motion to approve recommendation to the City Council for final approval to place a skateboard element adjacent to the trail by Council Member Beaton, seconded by Commissioner Schoen. All votes in favor, motion passed.
6. Discussion and Direction
  - a. Future Agenda Items
  - b. Announcements
  - c. Director's Report (Information only)
  - d. 2021 Special Events List (Information only)
7. Adjournment
  - a. Motion to adjourn by Council Member Beaton, seconded by Commissioner Maurer. All votes in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:43PM.

**PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY  
STAFF REPORT  
PROJECT NAME: Encroachment Request**

**To:** Waterways and Parks Commission

**Date:** 8/22/2021

**From:** Steve Plaza, Parks, Forestry, Cemetery, Building & Grounds Manager

**Description:** Request of Encroachment/Improvement at 1506 Howard Dr. on Riverview Dr.

**Location:** Riverview Dr.

**Background:** John & Linda Pennekamp, Homeowner requested permission to remove selected vegetation above Dells Pond, adjacent to 1506 Howard Ave. The project will include removal of invasive, dead and diseased trees leaving the stumps in place to help erosion control. It will also include replanting native grasses to help keep the riverbank stabilized.

**Justification:** Selective removal and thinning of trees and other vegetation will create a vista of Dells Pond on this portion of Riverview Rd. Maintenance work targeted for oak trees must follow best management practices to avoid oak wilt disease. The adjacent neighbors have already been approved and completed this past summer. Black Locust and Ash are primary targeted for this removal and staff recommends this work being done. To ensure quality control, all work is to be completed by an individual or firm that employees ISA Certified Arborists, and is licensed to apply herbicide treatment. All work will be completed under the general direction of the Forestry Division by a preapproved licensed contractor, any future work will need to go through the same process.

**Mission Statement:** To support the beautification and awareness of local parks or trails while encouraging and recognizing neighborhood and community involvements.

**Proposed Motion:** I motion to approve the Tree Trimming/Removal/Planting Treatment Permit Application submitted by John & Linda Pennekamp for the property adjacent to 1506 Howard Ave. overlooking Dells Pond. The homeowner will work with the City Forestry Department and will be responsible for all cost of this operation.

**Proposed Location:** Riverview Dr – adjacent to 1506 Howard Dr.

**Facilities Features:** N/A

**Storm Water:** No impact at this time

**City of Eau Claire Park and Open Space Master Plan:** Goal “C” subsection 3: “Promote joint public-private ventures in developing park and waterway facilities”

**City Comprehensive Plan:** Consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

**Financial:** Homeowner agrees to pay for the entire cost of the project

**LAWCON:** N/A



PARKS AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT  
 910 Forest Street, Eau Claire, WI 54703  
 (715) 839-5039 FAX: (715) 839-1693  
 www.eauclairewi.gov/forestry

Permit No.	_____
Ref. No.	_____
Receipt No.	_____

### Tree Trimming/Removal/Planting/Treatment Permit Application

**Property Owner**

Name: John & Linda Pennekamp	Phone: 763-354-8192
Address: 1506 Howard Ave	

**Contractor**

Name: Michael Dahlby	Phone: 715-456-6458
Address: 8233 162nd St Chippewa Falls WI 54729	Tree Trimmer's License #: herbicide applicator license #92007

Description of tree(s) to receive work; (location, species, diameter, number ) and date work is to take place.

Eradicate invasive species such as honeysuckle & buckthorn, using cut stump herbicide (Triclopyr) treatment. Remove ash in advance of mortality d/t emerald ash bore. Remove individual trees at high risk for windthrow. Improve spacing to "release" & promote desired trees & shrubs. Area is ~90ft of guardrail & ~12 ft of bank before the slope to the water's edge. Date to be set after approval of city.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:**

1. All work shall be done at the applicant's expense, including clean up and removal of all debris.
2. Standard safety precautions of the tree care industry are to be adhered to at all times. ANSI Z133.1
3. Work shall be performed so as to prevent damage to any road surface, sidewalk, overhead or underground utility.
4. Traffic control is the responsibility of the applicant and his/her contractor.
5. The City assumes no liability in connection with this action.
6. All traffic lane restrictions and closures require a 24-hour notice to Public Works at 715-839-4963.
7. This permit is valid for 90 days from date issued.
8. Removal of a tree may require a replacement (if applicable, note below)
9. Oak Wilt restrictions prohibit pruning from April 1 – July 31 Ordinance 8.20.090.
10. Contractors for hire must have valid appropriate Wisconsin Applicators License if applying insecticides or herbicides.
11. Please contact City Forester at 715-839-5039 when work is complete, for final inspection.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE TO APPLICANT**  
 In accepting this permit, the permittee, his/her successors, heirs and assigns agree to protect and hold harmless the City of Eau Claire from all claims, action or damages of every kind and description which may accrue to or suffered by any persons, corporations or property by reason of the performance of the above described work, cost of materials and labor, character of materials used or manner of installation, maintenance and operation, and in case any such suit or action is brought against said City of Eau Claire or damage arising out of or by reason of any of the above causes, the grantee, his successors, heirs or assigns will upon notice to him or them of commencement of such action, defend the same at his or their own sole expense and will fully satisfy and judgment after the said suit or action shall have finally been determined if adversely to the City of Eau Claire.

The City of Eau Claire may revoke, annul or terminate this permit if grantee fails to comply with any or all of its provisions, requirements or regulations as herein set forth or through willful or unreasonable neglect, fails to heed or comply with notices given him.

I hereby certify that I have read and examined this application and know the same to be true and correct. All provisions of the laws and ordinances governing this type of work will be met whether specified herein or not. The granting of a permit does not presume to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of any other State or local law regulating tree cutting or trimming.

I hereby certify that I am the owner of the subject property or I have been authorized by the owner(s) of the subject property to represent this application, and that I have read and examined this application and know the same to be true and correct. All provisions of laws and ordinances governing this type of work will be met whether specified herein or not. The granting of a permit does not presume to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of any other state or local law regulating construction of the performance of construction.

Signature:	Date: 8-25-2021	City Forester:	Approved: Yes No
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08/25/2021

John & Linda Pennekamp  
1506 Howard Ave  
Eau Claire WI 54703

Encroachment Application

To: City Forrester  
City Community Planning Department  
Waterways and Parks Commission

Riverview Drive is a well-traveled road and is frequently used by people. Since there is no pedestrian pathways or sidewalks along Riverview Drive, these people walk on the shoulder of the road and need to hug to the curb. Some residents maintain the grass and other encroaching plants on the city's lot from sticking into the road & growing over the guardrail, making people walk in the traffic lanes. Many of the trees that are now growing on the riverbank are invasive, dead, or diseased trees. The city did cut some of the trees and brush near the guardrail over the winter. However, some of the trees could use additional work or be removed due to disease.

For many years the invasive trees and plants have been taking over and thickening with resulting loss of native plants. The invasive trees and plants will continue to grow and repopulate along the bank and will continue to lead to loss of native plants.

The lack of plant diversity on the bank will affect the health of the riverbank. Removing the invasive trees will allow native small plants to grow and stabilize the bank from further erosion.

We built our home in 1979. After 42 years of owning this home, we know the city does not actively maintain the trees on this stretch of road. Four neighbors just south of us have been granted permission and have removed the invasive, dead, and diseased trees. We are asking to work to maintain the bank integrity with the city's permission.

The stumps from the removed trees will remain to ensure that the natural terrain of the bank will stay intact.

If approved, the removal will be handled by a certified arborist, Michael Dahlby who will take care to not damage the healthy native trees that are currently on the bank.

The objectives of this treatment are to:

1. Eradicate invasive species such as honeysuckle and buckthorn, using cut stump herbicide (Triclopyr) treatment.
2. Remove ash in advance of mortality due to the Emerald Ash Borer.
3. Remove individual trees that are high-risk for windthrow.
4. Improve spacing to "release" and promote desired trees and shrubs.

5. The intent would be to lop all cut material into small pieces and strategically scatter this coarse woody debris on the site to smother unwanted vegetation and protect the land surface from the impact of raindrops.

The work will be performed by:

Mike Dahlby

Dahlby Conservation Services, LLC.

(715) 456-6458

Herbicide applicators license is 92007 and expires on 2/28/2025.

Please see the attached three photographs.

1. The first photo was taken of Riverview Drive in 1985.
2. The second photo was taken August 2018. We had moved out of town and our renters did not maintain the area near the guardrail the way we had done since 1979.
3. Since 2018 we have trimmed the overgrowth from the guardrail and have mowed to keep the area as safe as possible for those using Riverview Drive for leisure activities like walking, jogging, and bike riding.
4. The third photo is a recent picture of the area in 2021. With these three photos, it is easy to see the progression of the invasive species that have been taking over the bank down to Dells Pond over the years.

Our lot is approximately 90 ft of guardrail on Riverview Drive with approximately 12 ft of bank before the slope to the water's edge.

We have attached an arial view photo that indicates where our property is located.

Sincerely,

John & Linda Pennekamp

1506 Howard Ave

Eau Claire WI 54703

763-354-8192



The above photo of Riverview Drive was taken in 1985, directly across from 1506 Howard Ave.

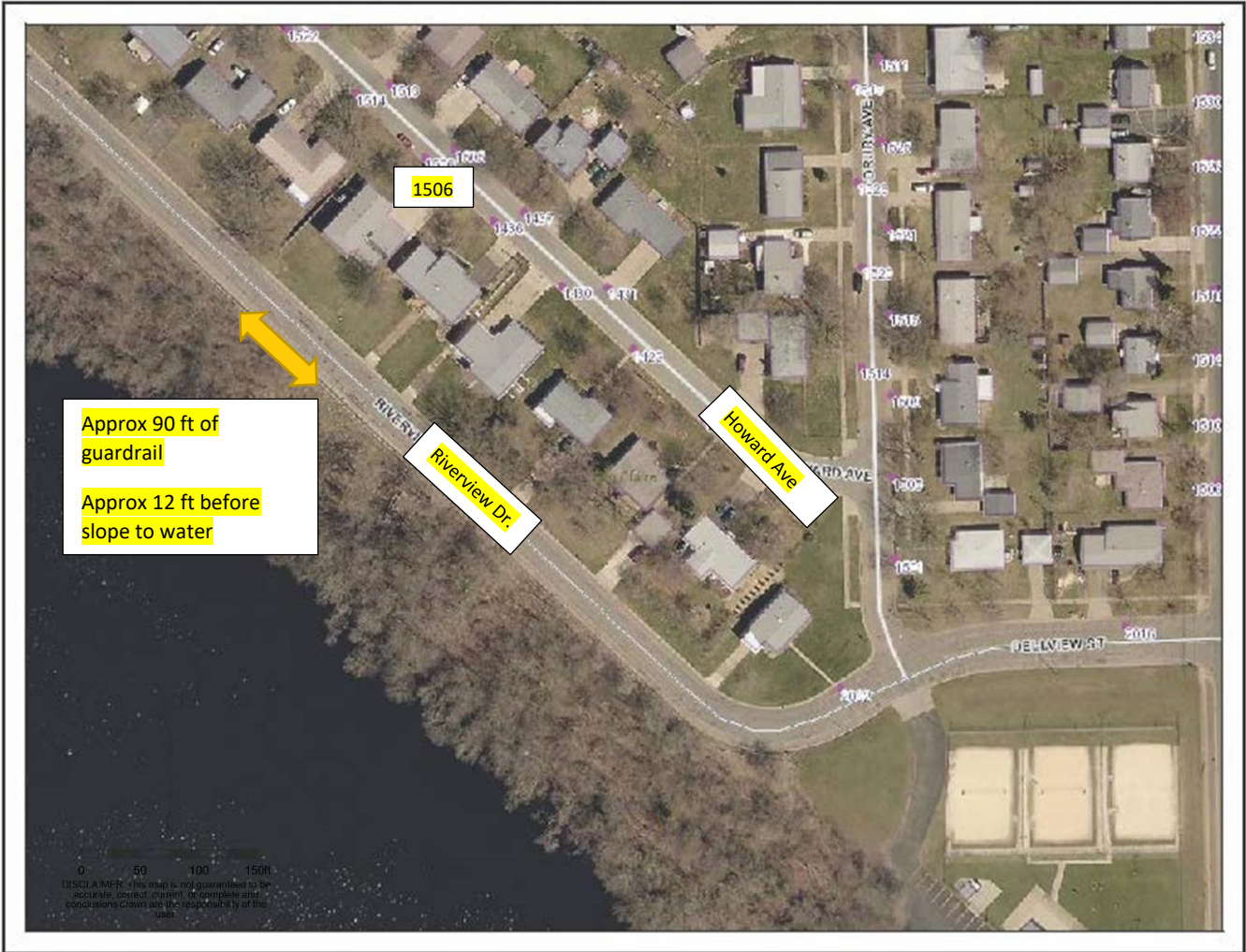


The above photo of Riverview Drive was taken in 2018 directly across from 1506 Howard Ave in approx the same area as the 1985 picture.





August 2021-Riverview Drive directly across from 1506 Howard Ave. This is after we have been keeping the area mowed and the guardrail cleaned off since 2018 as we had done since 1979.



## September/October 2021 Special Events

Event	Day/Date	Location
Farmer's Market	Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 05/01-10/30	Phoenix Park
Artist's Market	Saturdays, 05/29-09/25	Phoenix Park
Downtown Historical Walking Tours	Various, 06/02+	City sidewalks & trails
Food Truck Fridays	Fridays, 06/04, 07/09, 08/06, 09/03	Phoenix Park
Meet Me at the Confluence (Exercise series)	Wednesdays, 06/09, 06/23, 07/14, 07/28, 08/11, 08/25, 09/08, 09/22	Phoenix Park
Radio Control Car Races	Various, 06/15+	Carson Park
Tuesday Night Blues	Tuesdays, 07/06-08/31, Monday, 09/06	Owen Park
UW Meets EC	Thursday, 09/02	Owen, Phoenix
State Horseshoe Tournament	Saturday-Monday, 09/04-09/06	Carson Park
Buckshot Run	Saturday, 09/04	Carson Park
International Fall Festival	Saturday, 09/11	Downtown Eau Claire
Here We Grow Again Sale	Friday-Sunday, 09/17-09/19	Hobbs Ice Center
Walk for Life	Saturday, 09/18	Owen Park
90s Reunion Concert	Saturday, 09/18	Owen Park
Eau Claire Marathon	Saturday-Sunday, 09/25-09/26	Phoenix Park
Walk to End Alzheimers	Saturday, 09/25	Carson Park
Heart Walk	Saturday, 09/25	Carson Park
Barstow Block Party - Valleybrook Church	Sunday, 09/26	City sidewalks
North High School Homecoming Parade	Friday, 10/01	City streets & Carson
Memorial High School Homecoming Parade	Friday, 10/08	Carson Park
e Dance Company Fundraiser Kubb Tournament	Saturday, 10/09	Boyd Park
North High School Cross Country Meet	Saturday, 10/16	City Wells
UWEC Homecoming	Saturday, 10/16	City streets & Carson
Author Visit with Kao Kalia Yang	Tuesday, 10/26	Owen Park
Carson 5 & 10	Saturday, 10/30	City streets & Carson