



Waterways and Parks Commission

Agenda

February 23, 2022

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that there will be a meeting of the City Waterways and Parks Commission on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 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 on Wednesday, January 26, 2022.**
4. **Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on this Agenda**
5. **Business Agenda Items**
 - a. Selection of Commission Chairperson
 - b. Recommendation to accept right-of-way land dedication and land transfers in the Cannery District
6. **Discussion and Direction**
 - a. Future Agenda Items
 - b. Announcements
 - c. Director's Report
7. **Adjournment**

Vacant, Chairperson
c: News Media

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."



Waterways and Parks Commission

Minutes

January 26, 2022

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:04pm by Steve Plaza
2. Roll Call
 - a. Members Present: Charlotte Hudgins, Kirk Dahl, Gina Keenan, Ellen Faulkner, Megan Holmes, Christopher Johnson, Joe Maurer, Kate Beaton, and John Lor
 - b. Members Absent: Jessica Schoen, Meredith Ball
 - c. Staff Present: Steve Plaza, Carson Coffield, and Matthew Staudenmaier, Christien Huppert, Ryan Petrie
 - d. Also Present: Travis Holte, Jill Christopherson, Brad Aldrich, Tom Reiter
3. Election of Officers
 - a. Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary
 - i. Ellen Faulkner volunteered to be Secretary. Seconded by Kate Beaton. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - ii. Jon Lor nominated Kate Beaton to be Chair. Kate Beaton declined the offer to serve as Chair. The Chair position will be open until the next meeting on Wednesday, February 23.
 - iii. Jessica Schoen volunteered to be Vice Chair. Seconded by Gina Keenan. All members voted in favor. Motion passed.
4. Reading and approval of minutes of the past meeting, December 8, 2021.
 - a. Motion to approve by Steve Plaza. All Commissioners present voted in favor. Minutes approved as submitted.
5. Open Public Comment Period for Items that do not appear on this Agenda
6. Business Agenda items
 - a. New Commissioner Members
 - I. Charlotte Hudgins and Gina Keenan
 - II. Appointments are through December 31, 2024
 - b. Recommendation to approve Cannery Park Conceptual Plan
 - I. Steve Plaza introduced the new Cannery Park District and the introduction of the beginning stages of the design phase. Brad Aldrich presented the process on how the conceptual plan was created. Aldrich explained how the Eau Claire community had a large number of people that expressed their feedback and filled out the survey to give their input on the Cannery Park concepts. Aldrich further expressed how nature and shared gathering spaces were amongst some of the main priorities of the community members that shared their input. Aldrich explained how there were many comments about how it would be great if there were bathrooms and walking paths nearby the park area. Aldrich also explained how the conceptual plan would have ADA accessible areas. Kirk Dahl inquired why Aldrich preferred Concept #2, and Aldrich explained that neighbors also preferred it because of potential safety issues in Concept #1, as well as Concept #2's potential for recreation and a maker's market. Joe Maurer also inquired about various details regarding the north end of the plan for the Concept #2. Kate Beaton asked about how many trees would need to be removed in the Cannery District. Aldrich explained how there would not be many removed, if any at all. Kate Beaton expressed her favor to keep the park natural with plenty of trees within the space. Christopher Johnson expressed importance of maker's markets, especially for small businesses in the community. Joe Maurer commented how there are not many spaces in Eau Claire where there is shade for people to sit. Aldrich expressed how

riverfront and boardwalk trails may be limited due to various factors, including cost. Aldrich explained that there will not be much infrastructure next to the rapids towards the north end of the district. Joe Maurer expressed gratitude towards the design of the natural runoff that is currently set to be in place, and it will be a great asset even with all of the planned changes to the area. Megan Holmes inquired about the pollinator and education green spaces and whether they will be included in the final plan. Christopher Johnson also noted that those that skateboard regularly should be included in the design process for the skate section of the park because it is vital to have a proper design of skate elements that will actually be used.

- i. Steve Plaza made a motion to approve the Cannery Park conceptual plan. John Lor seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

7. Discussion and Direction

a. Announcements

- a. The next scheduled meeting for the Waterways and Parks Commission will be on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
- b. Steve Plaza announced that Princeton Park's design will be discussed at a future Waterways and Parks Commission meeting.
- c. Christien Huppert informed the commissioners that between Barstow and Farwell, there is a new trail scheduled to be installed. The second trail that has money allocated for is between Phoenix Park and Grand Avenue Plaza. The third section of trails that is scheduled to be installed is between the YMCA Tennis Center through to Rod & Gun Park.

b. Director's Report (Information only)

8. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Ellen Faulkner, seconded by Commissioner Kirk Dahl. All Commissioners present voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

MEMORANDUM**FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

Date: February 18, 2022

To: Waterways and Parks Commission

From: Kristine Basom, Budget Analyst

Subject: Transfer of land within the Cannery District

The Redevelopment Authority owns property between Maple Street and Platt Street along Oxford Avenue. The attached map shows the 8-foot section of land along the western edge of the parcels needed from the Redevelopment Authority for right-of-way dedication. A land transfer is also needed between the City of Eau Claire and the Redevelopment Authority for the following parcels:

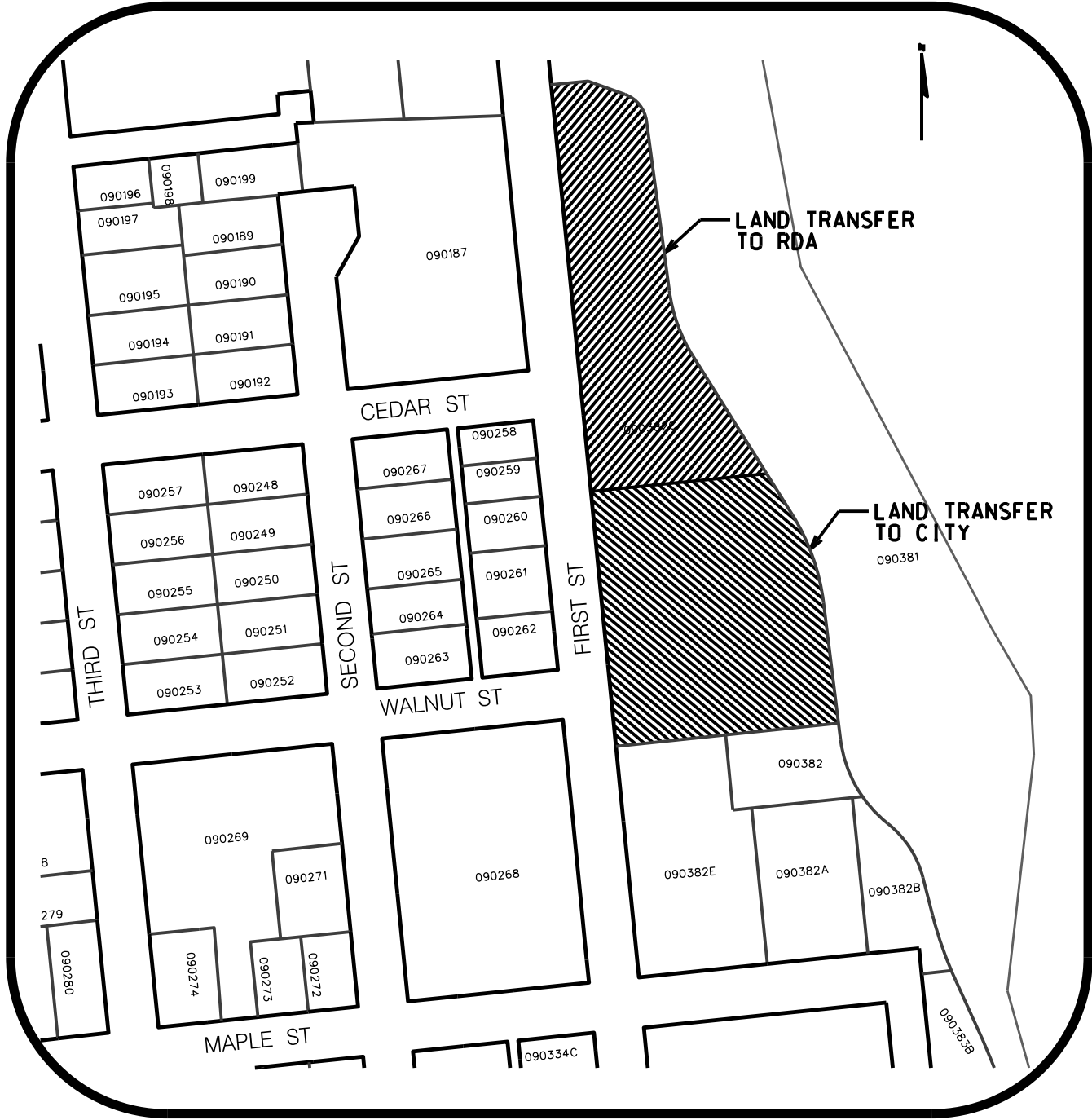
To the City of Eau Claire:

2021 Oxford Avenue (parcel 09-0383-C), 0 Oxford Avenue (parcel 09-0383-B), and the southern section of 28 Maple Street (parcel 09-0382-C). All of these parcels are needed for the park development along the Chippewa River.

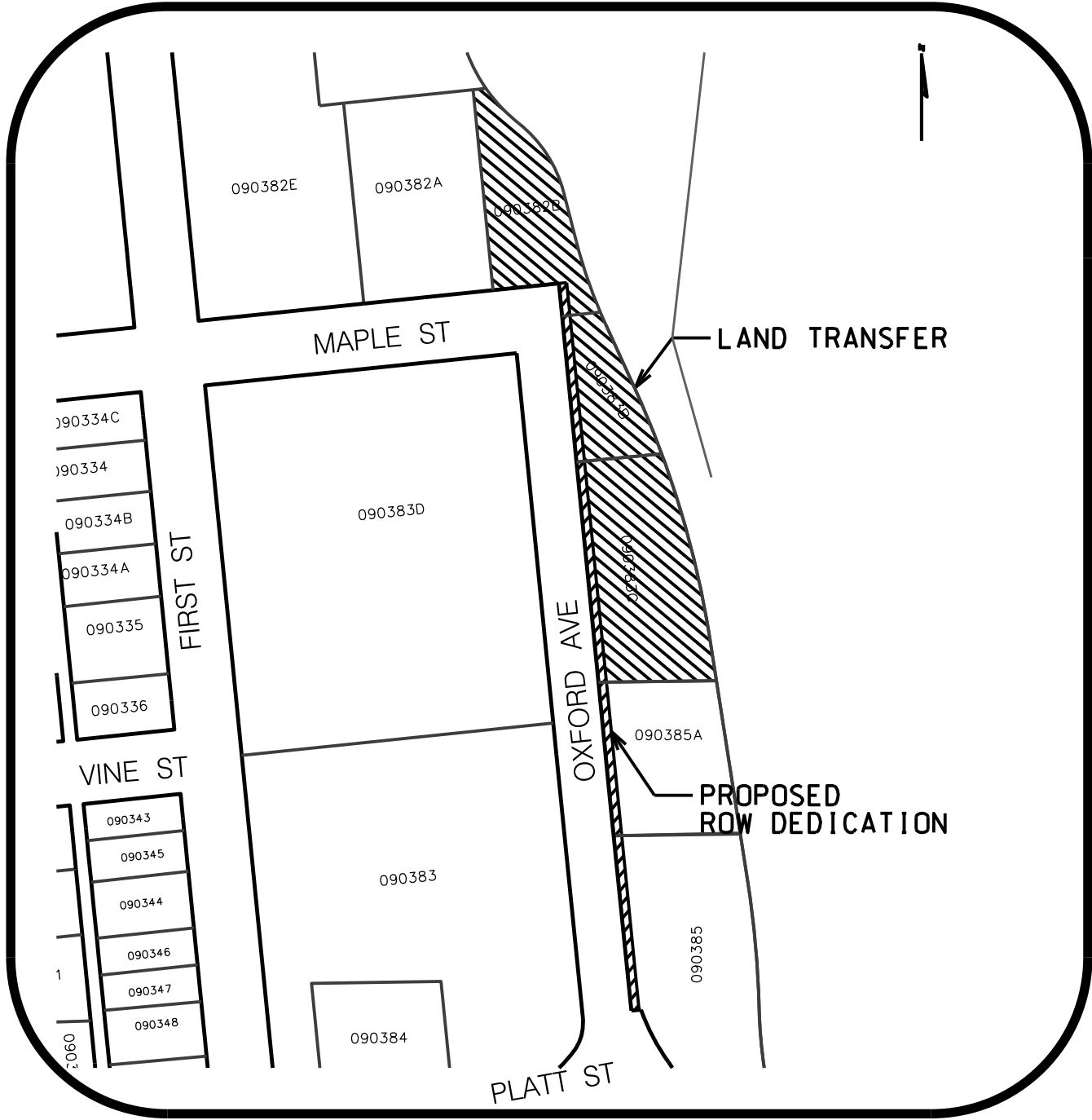
To the Redevelopment Authority:

The northern section of 28 Maple Street (parcel 09-0382-C). This parcel is needed for future development in the Cannery District.

Please place this item for review and recommendation to City Council on the February 23rd Parks and Waterways agenda.



LAND TRANSFER
CANNERY DISTRICT



LAND TRANSFER &
 PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY
 DEDICATION
 CANNERY DISTRICT