Grand Forks River Access Project Update:

The downtown river access would enhance the Boathouse project that is being implemented by Ground UP Adventures, a 501(c)3 nonprofit group with the goal of building stronger, healthier youth through adventure-based activities.

The initial plan was to place a concrete stairway with platforms and a removable railing at the site right below the Boathouse. After further review of the area, the local consultant, CPS, Ltd proposed a site a few hundred feet from the Boathouse. This site was recommended as it would allow us to work with the existing bank making the access ADA accessible. One goal was to allow access to the river throughout the season with the adjusting levels of the water. Utilizing this site would allow all ages and abilities to access and enjoy the river. The attached plan addresses how the site could expand in the future. Right now the goal is to implement Phase I of the project.

The Red River Boathouse will open this fall. The boathouse will act as the center for human-powered watersports and recreation on the Red River of the North, right in downtown Grand Forks, ND. This facility will serve the community by providing access to rental canoes, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards (SUPs), as well as training in the safe and responsible use of these boats on the river.

The Boathouse project has a number of partners, including the City of Grand Forks. The City of Grand Forks owns the land which they are leasing to Ground Up Adventures. The City wants to enhance the river access to the floating dock to support the goal of getting more people safely to and on the river. The total project costs for the river access are still estimated at \$100,000.

Submitted by: Melanie Parvey, Water Works Division Director

City of Grand Forks

