

GRAND MARAIS HARBOR PARK

PROJECT ID:

306-17-00

YEAR:

1999

GRANTEE:

City of Grand Marais

COUNTY:

Cook

CATEGORY:

Coastal Land Use
Planning & Development

GRANT AWARD:

\$27,500

TOTAL PROJECT COST:

\$56,001

The mission of Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program is to preserve, protect, restore and enhance coastal resources for present and future generations. We provide technical and financial assistance for local communities to balance protection of coastal resources with providing residents and visitors places to work, live, and play.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Lake Superior Coastal Program
1568 Highway 2
Two Harbors, MN 55616
Phone: 218.834.6612
www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/lakesuperior

SUMMARY

To plan improvements to its coast, a City of Grand Marais received a grant to design a future Harbor Park. The Park will replace a former gas station site, which was purchased previously by the City of Grand Marais.

The City hired a design consultant to create three Harbor Park alternatives, ranging from a passive natural park to a formal town square park.

The design consultant also led a thorough public review process in 2001, including meetings with important stakeholder groups, community organizations, and public hearings.

The chosen Harbor Park design (shown above) is dedicated to providing more natural space to view Lake Superior.



Harbor Park parking issue is a hot topic at city council

by Adam Moe
Staff Writer

The Grand Marais City Council spent nearly 45 minutes discussing the parking problem in downtown Grand Marais. Centered on the worries of downtown business owners who say that the current plan for Harbor Park will make truck deliveries and customer parking even more difficult than they are now.

Speaking for the business owners were Russell Zenk of the Lake Superior Trading Post and Gene Gladder of the Blue Water Cafe. According to Zenk, the current park plans

to think long-term in Grand Marais about parking. We know it's going to be more and more of a problem. I don't think it's a good idea to squander this opportunity for more parking. We have an opportunity here to improve the situation."

"I thought we were going to have a park and additional parking," said Gene Gladder. "To expand a park at the loss of parking and the viability of our businesses - it's crazy. You've got to do something to preserve the businesses."

Both Zenk and Gladder said that current plans will make parking in the area difficult, impossible to make

Park clean-up can proceed

By Neil Staff Writer

A Minnesota Pollution Control Agency official told City Council that plans to develop Harbor Park and improve the underground infrastructure in the area should proceed, regardless of the status of mandated groundwater contamination cleanup.

Greg Turling of the MPCA control office was invited to address Grand Marais City Council at its Sept. 27 meeting in an effort to clear up some of the confusion and misinformation about the process to rehabilitate the site of the former Standard Station.

Plans are under way to convert the corner lot to a city park, but the process has stalled at city officials

small some direction from the state as to what to do next.

"No, you should not be sitting here doing nothing," Turling said in response to a question from Council member Ed Holstad. "You should go ahead with your planning and fundraising. If you wait for us, that will slow it down. In fact you can push us along with your planning," he said.

Holstad pointed out that in addition to cleaning up and beautifying the park site, the city's Public Utilities Commission was planning to replace failing water lines under Wisconsin Street, possibly next spring. It only made sense, he said, to do both projects at once - if permissible - while the ground was

