

Bois des Esprits Forest Management Planning Process

Background

Bois des esprits is an over 100 acre area of riverbottom forest located on the east bank of the Seine River in the community of Royalwood.

On February 22, 2006 Council approved the acquisition of the final 14.91 acres of the forest, thereby preserving one of the largest remnant riverbottom forest stands within the City of Winnipeg. As a part of the Administrative report for the acquisition of this property, a Forest Management Planning Process was proposed and endorsed by Council, that included stakeholder consultation to determine future development and preservation strategies for the forest.

The City of Winnipeg, in cooperation with key stakeholders has initiated a Forest Management Planning process for this unique natural area. The Project Advisory Group includes representation from Planning and Land Use (PP&D) and Parks and Open Space (PW) staff, Save Our Seine, Ladco and the Province of Manitoba. Additional stakeholders invited to participate include local resident and condo association representatives, trail and paddling groups, environmental advocacy groups, technical advisors and others interested in the future of the forest.

A consultant team comprised of Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram Landscape Architects and SLMcLeod Consulting has been retained to lead the process consisting of stakeholder consultation, community design workshops and the development of a forest management plan and development guidelines.

Objectives for Bois-des-esprits Forest Management Plan include strategies for:

- protecting biodiversity, habitat and important physical and biological features;
- developing trail and river access plans, with defined permitted and prohibited activities;
- promoting environmental education, awareness and maintenance programs;
- defining the interface between private and public lands;
- supporting active transportation and healthy communities.

For more information please contact

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