

# Sustaining Green and Gray In Shoreview Parks



# Project Goals



- This study was conducted to provide Shoreview with information on the current state and interaction of green and gray infrastructure within Shoreview parks, and ideas for future improvements to make Shoreview parks more sustainable.

# Green vs. Gray

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□ Green – All natural areas within parks including grass, forested areas, plants, lakes, and ponds

□ Gray – All man-made infrastructure within parks including buildings, playgrounds, trails, and parking lots.

# Green Impacts

## Vegetation Management



Commons Park

## Park Maintenance



Bobby Theisen Park

# Green Management

## Research Methods:

- An inventory examined condition of forests, trails, parking lots, buffer strips
- A variety of secondary information, such as websites, interviews and case studies

## Findings:

- Buffer Strips
- Forest Biodiversity and Invasive Species
- Park Maintenance Protocol

# “Hotspot” Maps

## Legend

■ Ground Vegetation

▲ Trees

## Trails

### exposure

— Little/No Shade

— Shaded

□ parking lot

□ Area commonly flooded

□ parking lot veg buffer

□ Ponds

□ ponds veg buffer

▨ HighM\_fix



## Commons Park



## Legend

■ Ground Vegetation

▲ Trees

## Trails

### exposure

— Little/No Shade

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□ parking lot

□ Area commonly flooded

□ parking lot veg buffer

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□ ponds veg buffer

▨ HighM\_fix

0 112.5 225 450 675 900 Feet



# Green Recommendations

- Plant vegetated swales around parking lots
- Use sustainable landscaping practices
- Manage invasive species
- Establish park specific maintenance protocol



Bucher Park



UW Green Bay

# Gray Impacts

## Parking Lots



Shamrock Park

## Tree Shade



Bucher Park

# Gray Management

## Research methods

- ❑ Estimated percent gray cover in city parks and contacted city officials
- ❑ Research pervious pavement
- ❑ Park Inventory

## Findings:

- ❑ Shade on parking lots and trails
- ❑ Impervious pavement in Shoreview
- ❑ Environmental benefits of pervious pavement

# Gray Recommendations

- Partial pervious asphalt parking lots
- Crushed limestone trails



- Trees along trails and parking lots



Sacramento, CA

# Ponds Park

- Park users
- Location
- Accessibility
- City/Resident Agreement
- Future Maintenance



# Summary



- Park-specific maintenance protocol
- Permeable surface parking lots and trails
- Ponds Park
- Sustainable landscaping
  - ▣ Vegetative swales
  - ▣ Site-tolerant plants

# Questions?

