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*Cushing Memorial Park is a premier park that highlights the history and scenic, natural beauty of Delafield*

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## CUSHING MEMORIAL PARK

### OVERVIEW / CURRENT STATUS

Cushing Memorial Park is an 8.8 acre park that has been developed into a major attraction for people of all ages. The Fort Cushing play area coupled with the last stops on the Veterans Memorial Riverwalk have realized much of the potential that this historic park has to offer. The natural beauty of the Bark River, adjacent wetlands, and mature trees provide a picturesque setting. It also serves as a vital connector hub for trails that connect adjacent neighborhoods to the Veterans Memorial Riverwalk, Lake Country Recreational Trail and the new Cushing road bike path leading to Lapham Park.

#### *Short Term Requirements*

- Maintenance, parts replacement and structural repairs where necessary to Fort Cushing and restrooms.
- Evaluate tree type, age, health and general condition to provide for long term replacement
- Remove soccer field and goals. Install gazebo/picnic shelter with electricity for group picnic activities in current soccer field. (perhaps leaving one goal for kids to play with)
- Plant future shade trees around gazebo/picnic shelter adjacent area.
- Now that the dam has been removed note possible river cleanup requirements.
- Enhanced signage for adjacent trails, River walk access and Cushing Park monuments and history often overlooked by a casual visitor.
- Establish asphalt or crushed rock trail through park to Bark River Court access to enhance and channel flow for bikers and walkers.
- Engage with local municipal entities, schools, library, Saint John's Northwestern Military Academy, historical societies, Hawks Inn, Chamber of Commerce to coordinate the type of educational resource offered by Cushing Memorial Park and the Veterans Memorial Riverwalk.

## City of Delafield

- Formulation of a specific, regimented plan to maintain and enhance this park into the future to avoid a piecemeal end result.
- Path from parking lot to Cushing Monument.

### *Mid Term Enrichments*

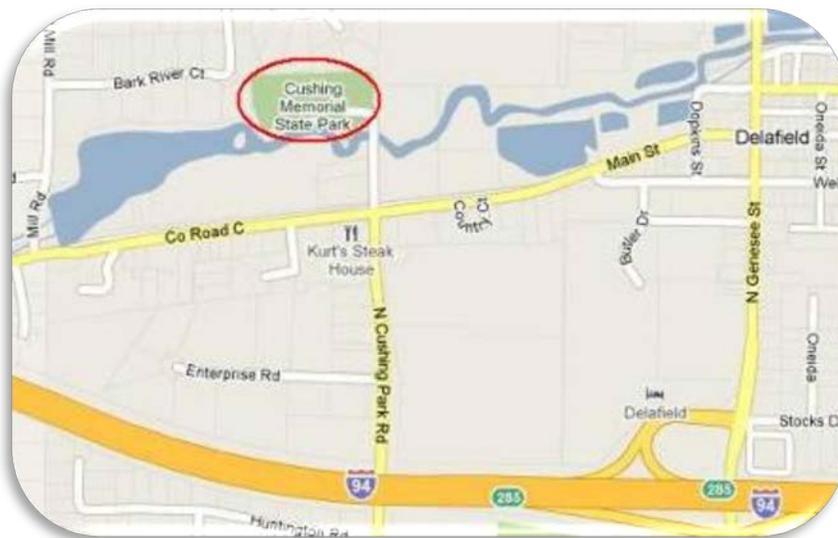
- Add small pier/river bank landing to provide safe, shore access for wading, viewing, fishing . . .
- Ongoing enhancement to the Civil War era theme and historical value of the park as part of the Riverwalk.

### *Long Term Vision*

- Possible capping/re-landscaping/drainage of culvert between parking lot and restroom to keep standing water moving.

## PARK MAP/LOCATION

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PICTURES

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SUMMARY

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Cushing Memorial Park is a fantastic City resource that benefits from inherent natural beauty, historical significance and an ongoing investment by the community. It has tremendous potential to be enhanced even further to educate and entertain while maintaining its conservancy-like atmosphere. Ongoing investment to preserve the amenities that exist (Fort Cushing play set, memorials, trees, water access, etc...) is required. A long term vision for this park along with its steady execution is essential to preserve this asset for the future.

## RANKED PRIORITIES

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- Formulation of a specific, regimented plan to maintain and enhance this park into the future to avoid a piecemeal end result
- Moderate maintenance, parts replacement and structural repair to the Fort Cushing play set
- Monitor Roller Mill Dam removal and any subsequent river restoration project and involve the City and Park system's interests in any project plan and execution
- Possible capping/re-landscaping/drainage of culvert between parking lot and restroom to keep standing water away from high traffic area
- Connect NW corner Bark River Ct. street access of park to the parking area with an asphalt or crushed rock trail for formal bicycle/walking path
- Evaluation of long term soccer field use and possible alternative use to exploit river access
- Add a small pier and river bank landing to provide safe, closer access to water for wading, exploring, fishing...