

CITY OF GRAND BLANC

BEAUTIFICATION MASTER PLAN

CONNECT GROW BECOME



City of Grand Blanc's Beautification Master Plan

Acknowledgements

This plan has been developed with the collaboration efforts with city staff, many volunteers, planning consultant and the public.



Our Mission

The continuing mission and purpose of the City of Grand Blanc is to foster community excellence, to enhance the quality of life for all people in the community, and to prepare the community for the future by sharing a strategic vision and a plan of action for improvement in: economic development, infrastructure (including transportation, water and sewage & drainage services), public safety (including police and fire prevention & suppression services), education, health care, culture and recreation.

Beautification Master Plan

The City of Grand Blanc has embarked on the journey to a Beautification Master Plan for many reasons. The primary reason is the ability to plan projects presently and into the future, most effectively with the resources available. Many of these projects require funding, whether through grants or the general fund budgeting experience. Another reason to create a Beautification Master Plan is to ensure we have the appropriate volunteers and staff necessary to follow through with projects. Landscape continuity is important to showcase the city's many assets and attractions. The beautification of the city is important to attract individuals to live, work and play here.

This plan will be based on a five-year cycle. The plan will be used as the basis for future projects. During the fourth year, the plan will be evaluated before the planning stages of another Beautification Master Plan cycle. The projects proposed can be shifted within the plan based on funding, volunteer/staff availability, and other unforeseen circumstances. This plan is meant to serve as guidelines for the future.

Beautification Master Plan Goals

YEAR 1

Project – Lower Level Planters

These planters will be utilized to add more color landscaping to the streetscapes. Projects such as moving the current lower level planters to a clustered area and increasing planters will meet the project goal.

Project – Welcome Signs

There are currently at least five major and minor entrances into the city limits. The focus on welcome signs should be primarily on the most frequented entrances and then the remaining entrances. The current signs will be replaced with new signs that will have our new city colors and logos. The goal will be met when all five entrances have new updated signage.

Project – Wayfinding signs

These signs are an important addition to the city. These signs will help navigate visitors and residents to interesting or important areas of the city. The goal will be met when these points have signage. The start of this project will be new signage for the parks. Ultimately, signage will be installed at major intersections depicting the location of major attractions.

Project – Dumpster enclosure painting

The City currently owns a dumpster enclosure that would be revitalized with artwork. The goal will be met once this first dumpster is completed. The next step will be to initialize conversations with local business owners to add artwork to their enclosures as well. The City can help facilitate artist and business owner to create a common nature theme throughout the city.

YEAR 2

Project – Install benches strategically (Phase 1)

The installation of benches at key locations, such as bus stops and other places walkers would require a rest. These other locations will be located and approved by the City Manager and DPW Director. This goal will be met with the placement of new benches at bus stops that have the space and capability.

Project – Improve Streetscapes (Phase 1)

Improving the streetscapes will be completed in multiple phases. The first stage could have projects designed to add color and dimension. The goal will be met with incremental improvements. Projects such as increasing lamp posts, flowers, fixtures, or other various ways streetscapes are designed to look more appealing as visitors and residents engage throughout the city.

Project – Paint benches with artwork

Improving the look and appeal of some benches throughout the City will enhance the area. The goal will be met once some benches have been painted and others are being prepared for artwork.

YEAR 3

Project – Adding Decorative Lights

The addition of lights will create dimension and spark within the city. The project could be an installation of a lighted path in the park, lighted statue, or other various ways of light mediums. The goal will be met with the installation of a decorative light fixture in the city.

Project – Parks improvements

The parks are continually being improved every year. The goal will be met with any major project completion in either park. Examples include, additional gardens, statues, bandshell, or another major project.

Project – Artwork/Sculptures placement

The City has a great appreciation of art and sculptures. The first step is to initiate a conversation with an artist interested in creating or selling a piece of art that meets the needs of the city. The goal will be to acquire a piece of art and install it in a heavily utilized area of the city.

YEAR 4

Project – Install benches strategically (Phase 2)

Installation of more benches throughout the city creates an atmosphere of placemaking and walkability. This goal will be met with the addition of more benches in heavily trafficked areas such as parks, sidewalks, and trails.

Project – Improve Streetscapes (Phase 2)

The improvement of streetscapes in the second phase could use projects such as; increased flower baskets, increased lamp posts, increased lower level planters for flower, statues or other nature themed ideas. The goal will be met with the completion of any of these projects.

YEAR 5

Project – Larger hanging baskets

The larger hanging baskets will be a goal fulfilled with the addition of larger hanging baskets at the main intersections first. This will create dimension and an increase of color.

Project – Bus stop functionality

The bus stops are quick areas of rest. The projects to gain functionality would be to include enclosures or another way of keeping the elements away from someone waiting for the bus. This could be a project with creativity and resourcefulness. The bus stops are traditionally smaller areas holding few people. These creative enclosures would create a unique look while providing a service to the community.