

## **CHAPTER IV. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

As noted in Chapter II, several improvements have been made over the past two years. Yet additional projects are needed in support of the new vision for the Cemetery. The following items are recommended. The location, design, and cost of these projects should be determined when individual improvements are closer to implementation. They are listed here in order to provide an overall sense of what does (and by inference does not) support the intent of this Master Plan. With the exception of the first item, the schedule for implementation is flexible. The City and/or organizations and/or volunteers are encouraged to pursue any of these projects as interest and funding become available.

\* Sprinkler Irrigation A sprinkler irrigation system should be installed in the lower flat tier of the Cemetery. No plots have yet been sold in this section; hence an irrigation grid can be created which does not conflict with current or future uses. Implementation of this irrigation project should occur before any of the plots on the lower tier are sold. Design standards for gravesites in this section of the Cemetery should address above ground structures such that ease of mowing and other maintenance is assured. Extra water or electrical service brought in comes with monthly costs and should be considered at that time.

At some future time a sprinkler irrigation system may be extended to the hillside portions of the Cemetery. This poses considerable challenges, however, due to the presence of numerous above ground structures and uncertainty about potential shifting of below ground caskets over the years. If sprinkler irrigation were installed on the hillside tiers, it would also make maintenance more challenging for both the City and for owners of the plots due to the current landscaping and configuration of grave site monuments.

### **\* Flagpole**

A flagpole should be installed. The use of this flagpole should be administered by City staff.

### **\* Columbarium**

A multi-level structure should be built on the lower tier of the Cemetery for placement of urns containing cremated remains. Individual wall niches would be available for purchase. Construction of a columbarium would address the trend toward cremation instead of casket burials, and would increase the capacity of the Cemetery for future generations.

### **\* Memorial Plaza**

A portion of the lower tier should be established as a Memorial Plaza to honor notable Poulsbo residents and volunteers. No interments would be permitted in this plaza, but a memorial wall and garden are envisioned with space for plaques in recognition of people who have served the community with distinction.

### **\* Ashes Garden**

A portion of the lower tier should be designated and developed as a landscaped garden where people are permitted to spread cremated ashes of deceased loved ones.

\* Pedestrian Pathways

The paved roadways on the hillside tiers afford walkways for visitors. The lower tier should incorporate a path which connects the entrance with the covered structure, columbarium, memorial plaza, and ashes garden.

\* Fencing and Pilasters

The perimeter fence should be replaced with an iron-work fence. Brick pilasters for affixing sponsorship or memorial plaques should be incorporated as part of the fencing.

\* Section Markers Install improved section markers throughout the Cemetery.

\* Gravesite Markers

Durable, standardized markers should be installed for each plot. This would enable descendants and visitors to more easily locate grave sites.

\* Informational Signage

At strategic locations throughout the Cemetery there should be informational signage. This includes a display map and maintenance-friendly bulletin board at the entrance; historical markers; identification markers for heritage trees; and other information as appropriate.

\* Landscaping

Landscaping should be enhanced (particularly in the lower tier), and should be done in a way that does not interfere with gravesites or create burdensome needs for maintenance.

\* Unmarked Graves

As research reveals the identity of unknown gravesites, name markers should be installed for plots that do not currently have memorial markers or headstones.

\* Public Art

City sponsored as well as privately donated sculpture or other artwork should be encouraged, provided it does not interfere with gravesites or create burdensome needs for maintenance.

\* Lighting

Subdued lighting should be installed to illuminate appropriate areas such as the entrance, covered structure, columbarium, and Memorial Plaza.

**FURTHER SUGGESTION:**

The City should acquire adjacent acreage immediately south of the current Cemetery site. This is not intended to be an expansion of the Cemetery per se, but rather an open space for passive recreation. Acquiring land adjacent to the Cemetery would provide a compatible enhancement for visitors of the Cemetery. Activities and events permitted in this park should be limited in a way that protects and preserves the solemn decorum of the Cemetery.