



Meeting: Riverfront Enhancement Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: 10/30/2019

Time: 11:45AM

Location: Library Meeting Room

Committee Members

Tracy Heisler, Co-Chair	Suzie Nakasian
Norman Oberto, Co-Chair	Kristi Pursell
Joe Gasior	Greg Siems
Peter Hark	Robert Stai
Peder Jochen	Glenn Switzer
Rachel Leatham	Erica Zweifel

Additional Attendees

Holly Larson, Barrett Steenrod and Jeremy Edwards - National Park Service.

	AGENDA ITEM
1.	Call to Order and Approval of Agenda
REGULAR BUSINESS	
3.	Review compilation of ideas from small group discussions
4.	Other Business
	- Project sharing as time allows
5.	Adjourn

Northfield Riverfront Advisory Committee

Ideas for Implementation from Assets/Opportunities Exercise & Small Group Exercises 2019

Please consider whether to KEEP these ideas in your Implementation Plan, DELETE them or MODIFY them. Note that some of the ideas, especially in the parks sections, are contradictory.

DOWNTOWN—SPECIFIC IDEAS	2008 Comp. Plan Policy #
1. Engage & activate the River	ED1
2. Complement existing businesses	ED1
3. Implement the elements that have not been accomplished from the 2014 Bridge Square Plan	
4. Look for untapped opportunities	
5. Clean up and enhance buildings on the river	
6. Monitor downtown sites for redevelopment opportunities, such as Basil's on Water St. to orient development to the river, provide public spaces, and increase river access	LU2.1
7. Orient downtown buildings toward the river	LU2.6
8. Utilize backsides of Division St. buildings & the Riverwalk between 2 nd & 5 th	A/O Exercise
9. "Better integration" with downtown/businesses	A/O Exercise

REDEVELOPMENT/BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	
10. East side of Dundas Blvd. an economic development opportunity?	ED3.2
11. Create a Brew Trail in partnership with Dundas	ED4.6
12. Monitor the area between the river & Water St., from St. Olaf Ave. to Greenvale Ave for redevelopment opportunities	LU1.6
13. Opportunities: Riverpark Mall Bluewater property—north side Jefferson Parkway & Jefferson Road (host a bike workshop) North of Carleton Fieldhouse between river & Division St. in 2029 Vet clinic?	LU3.2
14. Encourage the following uses: Maker space, industrial art, 3D printing lab for obsolete parts, micro organic milling operation—a hub for small grain production	LU3.5
15. Encourage reuse of vacant industrial & commercial space	
16. Encourage food trucks	LU4.2
17. Encourage infill/redevelopment to take advantage of viewsheds	LU—Other plan
18. Encourage riverside development with river access	PR2.2

PROGRAMMING/EVENTS	
19. Increase programming for tourism along or on the river	ED4.6
20. Move YMCA summer programs to Babcock Park	CI6.3
21. Close bridge on 4 th St. periodically for events. Encourage bridge rental (4 th St.); “Huge removable tent” for events on the 4 th St. bridge	LU1.4, A/O Exercise; PR8.2

MARKETING	
22. What features of the City are being “undersold”?	
23. Promote the Cannon River Water Trail designation in coordination with Dundas	LU6.7; A/O Exercise
24. Implement a comprehensive promotional campaign about the bicycle/pedestrian system both within and outside of the city	LU—Other plan
25. Promote “park once” strategy; develop a parking app to direct people to preferred parking locations	LU 9.1
26. Promote opportunities along the river (recreational & economic development)	A/O Exercise

RIVER ACCESS	
27. Consider: enough accesses to river? Enhancement of accesses needed?	ED1; A/O Exercise
28. Evaluate access to the river as part of development review process	ED2.1
29. Identify priority areas for increased access to the river	ED2.1
30. Enhance access at south end on west side of river. Opportunity for economic development w/strategic land use?	ED 3.2
31. Bridge across river in “rural” areas	ED3.3
32. Add more public parking in front of the hotel on E side at 2 nd St (empty lot)	CI1.4
33. Add a pedestrian bridge across the river between 1 st St. & Carleton College Fieldhouse	CI2.5; A/O Exercise
34. Provide for a pedestrian connection under the 2 nd St. bridge	CI4.1
35. Make Division St. a one-way or pedestrian only street to support more parking close to the river	CI4.3
36. Increase visibility of access points	LU 2.6
37. Create a river access at the ice rink	LU—Other plan
38. Enhance river access to west shore at corner of 2 nd Ave & Hwy 3	LU-9.4
39. Construct a floating walkway under the 2 nd St. bridge to connect to the Marriott and Tiger Trail	A/O Exercise
40. Extend the Riverwalk beyond 2 nd St.	A/O Exercise
41. Clear brush from river’s edge and islands south of 5 th St. & on park properties	PR2.1; PR 2.2; PR5.3
42. Extend the trail behind condos on west side of river north of 2 nd St. to proposed new pedestrian bridge	PR2.1
43. Create river access from the back of buildings along the river	PR2.2
44. Add a parking ramp or improve parking with a historic looking ramp	PR—Other Plan
45. Add a canoe/kayak launch on the river from the Arboretum trail	PR4.2

TRAILS & OTHER BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS	
46. 2 nd St. Bridge?	LU2.4
47. See Toole Report, Spring 2019; comprehensive trail/sidewalk connectivity	LU 2.4; A/O Exercise
48. Encourage a bike/scooter share company to operate in Northfield (again)	LU—Other plan
49. Fund/encourage a bike taxi	LU4.2
50. Build a trail connecting the East River Trail to Honeylocust St., including bike/pedestrian crossing at Hwy 3 & Honeylocust	LU4.7
51. Provide bicycle lockers	LU—Other plan
52. Build a trail connection from Riverside Lane across the river to Sechler Park Road	LU9.2
53. Bring recreational trails downtown to improve economic vitality	A/O Exercise
54. Connect to the Depot & local regional transit options	A/O Exercise; LU4.2
55. Provide multi-modal trail connectivity (walk, kayak, bike)	A/O Exercise
56. Light all walkways between ???	A/O Exercise
57. Create a connection between Ames Park and Bridge Square	A/O Exercise
58. Add native plantings in road medians, especially Hwy 3	PR2; PR4.3
59. Build a trail connection from the transit hub to parks	PR2.2
60. Add an underpass of the Hwy 3 bridge	PR—Other plan
61. There is an informal mountain biking trail along Heath Creek, maintained by CRORC; consider whether an improvements are needed	PR3
62. Design/build trails to plan for flooding	PR3.1
63. Build a connection to the river from Honeylocust St.	PR3.2
64. Consider creating a trail between the Fire Hall & the river, connecting Sechler & Ames Parks	PR3.3
65. Add a trail to the Arboretum from the new proposed bridge. Work with Carleton to designate a route & add wayfinding signs	PR3.3
66. Connect trail around Malt-O-Meal property	PR3.3
67. Add a bridge over the Cannon River off of the Carleton Arboretum Trail, near the oxbow lake	PR4.2
68. Add a pedestrian bridge across the river at Carleton Stadium	PR4.2
69. Resurface existing paved trail in Sechler Park	PR5.1

GATEWAYS	
70. Create “Welcome to Northfield” gateway, including public art, at the following locations: a) Hwy 3 at north side of city b) Hwy 3 & 2 nd St c) Hwy 19/5 th St & Hwy 3 d) Hwy 19 & St. Olaf Dr. e) Hwy 3 & 110 th St. f) Cannon River near Dundas	CI5.1, CI5.2
71. Implement a pedestrian friendly crossing & traffic calming at Hwy 3 & 2 nd St.	CI5.4

ART	
72. Create murals to enhance aesthetic, engage people, and add character within downtown river corridor	ED3.3
73. Use art along the river downtown & through transition areas that relates to the river	ED3.3; LU--Other plan
74. Consider water related, artistic crosswalk designs for the river corridor	LU—Other plan
75. Consider storm drain art downtown	LU2.6
76. Edible arrangements?	LU7.2

WAYFINDING	
77. Add cohesive wayfinding/navigation along the river	Other plan; A/O Exercise
78. Sign and label public gathering spaces	LU1.4
79. Create a geo-referenced bike/ped map	LU—Other plan
80. Provide maps of bike/ped system	LU9.4
81. Add wayfinding to Heath Creek mountain bike trail	PR3.2
82. Turn Bridge Square into a wayfinding spot for trails	PR3.4

RECREATION	
83. Identify locations for fishing access & provide some amenities to increase tourism	ED4.6; A/O Exercise
84. Improve amenities at parks along river to increase tourism	ED4.6
85. Use the river as a more active recreational resource for tourism	ED4.6
86. Partner with the colleges to increase recreational use of the river	ED4.6
87. Provide kayak lockers at multiple locations	LU—Other plan
88. Create a kayak flume on the river wall	A/O Exercise
89. Lighted gondolas for rent between 2 nd & 4 th St. bridges	A/O Exercise
90. Create a portage around the dam	A/O Exercise

PARKS--GENERAL	
91. Install an appropriate number and distribution of the following along the river: picnic tables, shade trees, bike racks, informational signage	LU—Other plan
92. Add more “green” to the 3 riverside parks & ice arena	LU6.4
93. Convert turf boulevards to pollinator friendly or edible landscapes	LU6.4
94. Create a health corridor with exercise stations	LU—Other plan
95. Improve “underdeveloped landings”	A/O Exercise
96. Involve Landscape Architecture Dept. from U of M in park planning	PR2.1
97. Improve aesthetics on park properties along river	PR2.2

RIVERSIDE PARK	
98. Add stalls and potable water supply to improve the Farmer’s Market at Riverside Park	CI1.3
99. Improve landscaping	PR5.3

BABCOCK PARK		
100.	Use Babcock Park as a connection/gateway from downtown to the river	CI2.1; PR3.2
101.	Create a bike/walk trailhead	CI2.3, PR2.2; PR3.2; PR5.1
102.	Create a canoe/kayak launch; incorporate the river as a play area	CI2.3; PR3.2; PR5.1
103.	Move dog park to Odd Fellows	PR2
104.	Move Rodeo & grandstand to dog park location	PR2
105.	Move rodeo & grandstand to another location outside of the riverfront	PR5.1
106.	Test the soil in the parking lot for contamination	PR2.3
107.	Add a buffer between the park and the road	PR4.4
108.	Move ice arena to dog park location/a 4 season hockey/event center that opens to the river	PR5.1
109.	Add a pavilion	PR5.1
110.	Enhance parking and gathering spaces	PR5.1
111.	Improve landscaping	PR5.1
112.	Add a cultural/activity center	PR5.1

AMES PARK		
113.	Improve ugly & underutilized Ames Park	A/O Exercise
114.	Add a buffer between Post and Ames Park	PR2; PR4.4
115.	Add sculpture, children's playground, and gateway sign at Ames Park	PR5.1
116.	Address security concerns for Post	PR5.1
117.	Add a memorial walkway to plaza	PR5.1
118.	Add parking	PR5.1

BRIDGE SQUARE		
119.	Enhance Bridge Square	A/O Exercise
120.	Close the stub street adjacent to Bridge Square & convert to parking or expansion of park	PR3.4

NEW PUBLIC SPACES		
121.	Create a "ceremony place" at the river's edge or protruding into the river, south of 2 nd St. Bridge at former Byzantine Restaurant site, or at Ames Park	
122.	Work with Dundas to add a shared RV & tent campground/picnic area between the river & Dundas road, across from Bluestone St. entrance	LU6.7; A/O Exercise
123.	Develop a campground at north end of Campostella Park	PR4.2
124.	Develop a campground where Riverview Lane terminates	PR6.1

125.	Create a parking site for “Park Once” between Linden & Hwy 3, south of 3 rd Ave.	LU9.1
126.	Create a Northfield Boat Club on the “16 current ports of Northfield”	A/O Exercise
127.	Add a boat house/café near Division St. parking lot at Carleton College	PR2.2
128.	Add new parkland behind the Fairfield hotel along the river, or Obtain a scenic easement along the river behind the hotel & condos & add natural vegetation	PR2.1; PR—Other plan
129.	Move ice arena to near Honeylocust St. and convert the ice arena property to a new park. Consider existing ice arena location for river outfitter?	PR—Other plan; PR8.2
130.	Move & reuse ice arena; consider converting old arena to pickleball, indoor tennis courts	PR8.2
131.	Create a park at the corner of Water St. & 2 nd at old Byzantine lot	PR—Other plan
132.	Install a pavilion adjacent to the oxbow lake with access from Weaver St.	PR4.2
133.	Explore installing a lagoon for flood mitigation off of Riverview St. & Campostella Park	PR4.3; PR4.4

CONSERVATION		
134.	Maintain protection of the Cannon River	ER3.3
135.	Convert existing open space into more beautification efforts	LU6.4
136.	Preserve existing green infrastructure	LU6.4
137.	Preserve the scenic quality along the river from the south end of the city to Babcock park (remove invasives & debris, plant with natives)	LU6.8
138.	Move the compost facility to a non-river location & convert the site to RV camping	LU6.8
139.	Protect mature trees and vegetation along the river corridor	LU6.8
140.	Encourage conservation easements to preserve river corridor (possible through Wild & Scenic designation)	LU7.4
141.	Address climate adaptation and carbon sequestration	A/O Exercise
142.	Address flood mitigation	A/O Exercise
143.	Address wetland mitigation	A/O Exercise
144.	Consider the effects of dam removal (possible whitewater park?)	A/O Exercise; PR2.3
145.	Expand the buffer around the trout stream	PR4.4

HABITAT IMPROVEMENT		
146.	Remove invasive species from river corridor & replace with native species, especially from the hotel & northward & on City property	ER2.2, CI2.2; PR5.3
147.	Fund (and manage) the Turf to Pollinator program	ER2.3
148.	Create a “tree fund” program so the City can plant more trees using donations	ER 3.2

149.	Create a rebate program whereby homeowners that convert turf to pollinator friendly landscapes get a property tax rebate	LU6.4
150.	Enhance habitat for fish to improve recreational fishing (stocking also?)	A/O Exercise

WATER QUALITY		
151.	Partner with agencies & local governments to work with farmers in surrounding areas to prevent soil erosion into tributaries of the Cannon River, especially Rice Creek, a trout stream	ER3.4
152.	Work with the County to consider the effects of the proximity of the landfill to the river	ER5
153.	On west side of Hwy 3 between 2 nd Ave & 3 rd Ave: reduce runoff from site by planting trees (?)	LU6.6

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION		
154.	Partner with the Cannon River Watershed Partnership to educate the public about resource conservation (air conditioner use, etc.)	ER1.1
155.	Share the depth-to-bedrock soils maps with the public “more aggressively” to address the concern about soil depth downtown	ER3.1
156.	Educate the public about river corridor conservation	ER3.3
157.	Create and install educational signage throughout the Cannon River watershed about the history & significance of the river	ER3.3
158.	Conduct rain garden tours	LU 7.2
159.	Create a local “carbon offset fund”	LU6

AESTHETIC IMPROVEMENTS		
160.	Light the dam and bridges	A/O Exercise
161.	Enhance Landscaping	A/O Exercise
162.	Add decorative lighting to buildings	A/O Exercise
163.	Improve aesthetics (lack of architectural details of bridges)	A/O Exercise

POLICY CHANGES		
164.	Avoid policy and development decisions that diminish the corridor (buildings backing up to the river, garbage/dumpsters along river, etc.)	ED2
165.	Modify policy to not require garbage be in the back of buildings for buildings along the river; require a garbage enclosure along the river downtown	ED3.3
166.	Keep development off of the steep slopes on the riverbank	ER2.1
167.	Limit development to “smart development” along the river corridor to enhance rural quality	CI4.6
168.	Don’t allow single family residential in or near downtown (“missing middle”?)	LU2.2
169.	Create a form-based code overlay (including the river corridor) to:	LU1.2, LU1.3;
170.	blend public realm/streetscape with new developments,	LU2.5

171.	develop identifiable neighborhood districts	
172.	Encourage more compact housing	
173.	Do not allow new developments to block the views of the river	
174.	Create an overlay district for the river corridor to identify the ideal redevelopment form	LU3.2
175.	Streamline the process to obtain a liquor license for pop-up events	LU 1.4
176.	Allow food trucks in all neighborhoods (at specific locations)	LU4.2
177.	Create design standards that orient commercial buildings to help define the streetscape and riverfront	LU5.4
178.	Incorporate public improvements into new city improvements	LU5.4
179.	Congestion pricing for parking—charge where you want to discourage parking & offer free parking where you want to encourage parking	LU9.1
180.	Review development policies for aesthetic conflicts with the river & adjust policies as necessary	LU10.1. LU11.1

ENFORCEMENT		
181.	Ensure that businesses in the river corridor manage their waste properly to prevent river pollution	ER5.1
182.	“Encourage conservation standards” among riverfront property owners	ER10.4