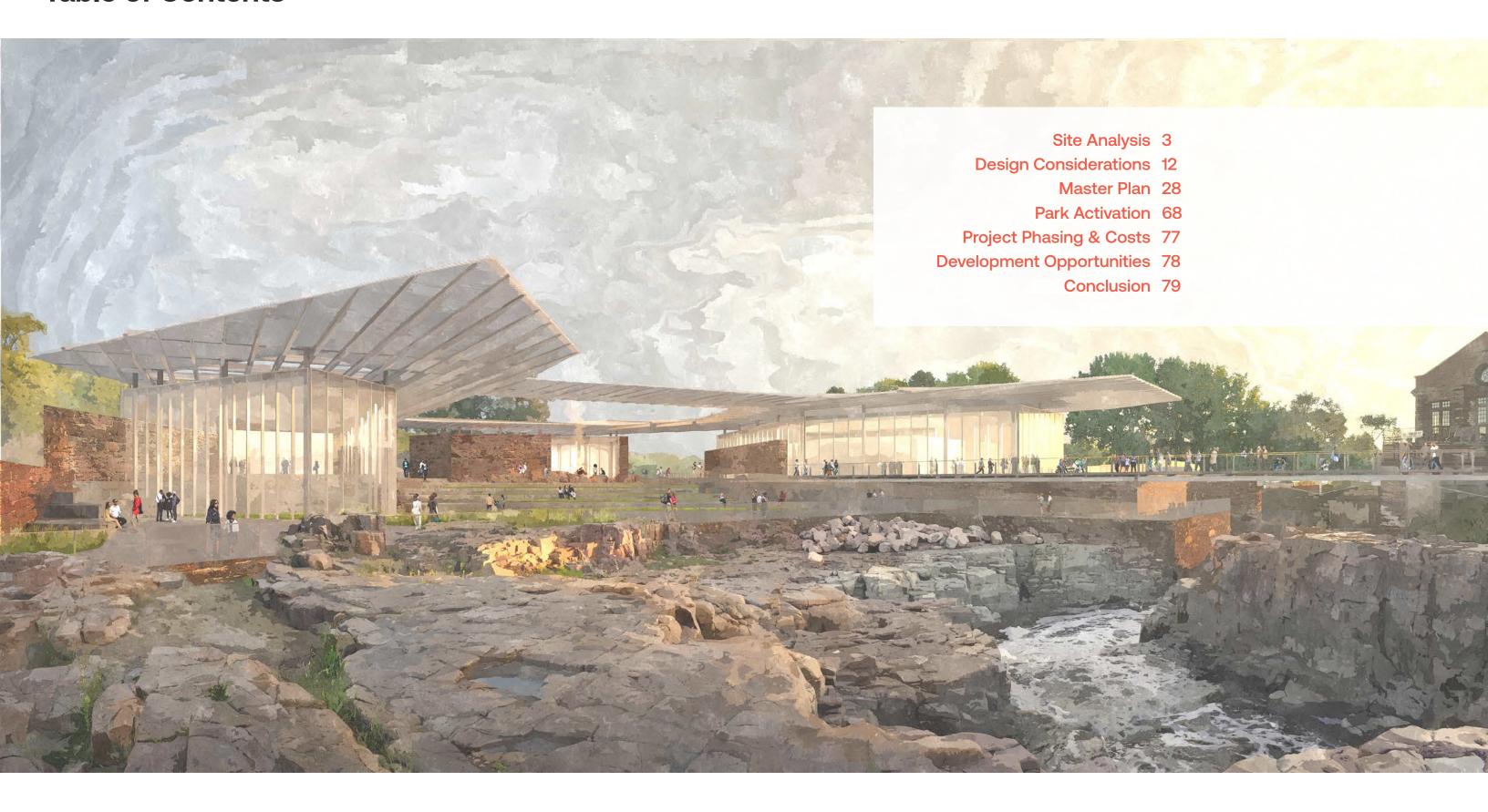
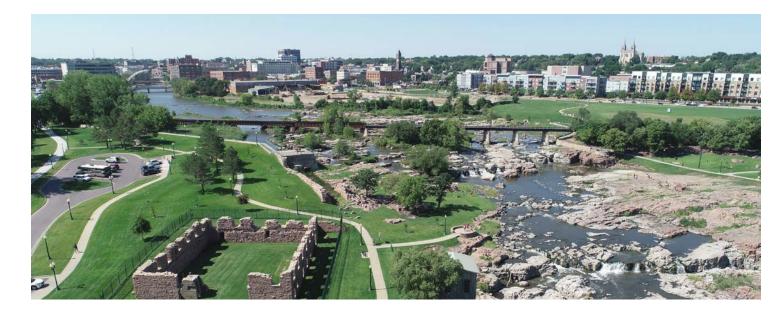


Table of Contents





Site Analysis | Introduction





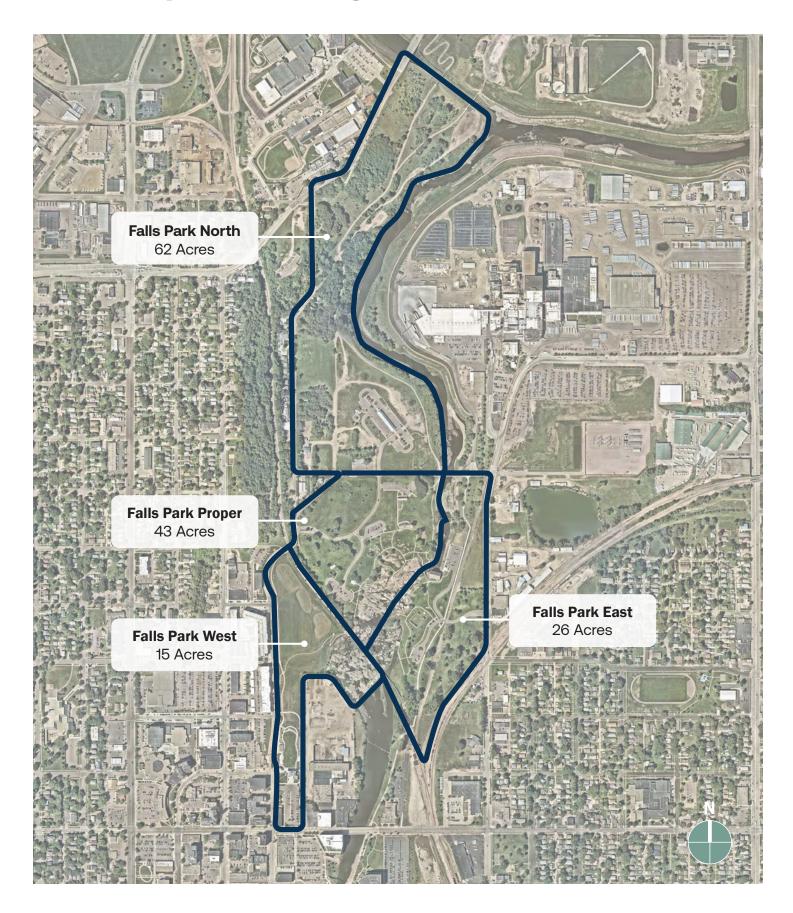
Whether it's a tourist visiting the famous and must-see Big Sioux River waterfalls, or a local South Dakotan enjoying lunch at the Falls Overlook Café, Falls Park is a cherished place and one that is steeped in history. The city's past revolves around the scenic falls, the Big Sioux River, and the surrounding land, which have also played an important role in population growth and economic development. As the city continues to rapidly change, the population grows, and we are faced with the complexity of climate change, Falls Park must be protected and enhanced to serve the neighboring community, visitors, and city for generations to come.

Parks and open spaces have transformative powers - they enhance community resilience and improve quality of life. Parks are the most democratic spaces within our cities, highlighting the possibilities of inclusiveness in life in downtown cores. They provide opportunities for people to come together to celebrate, demonstrate, play, relax, and live life to the fullest.

Stockwell Engineering, JLG, and OJB are thrilled to share the design vision that we have laid out for the transformation of this special place just north of downtown Sioux Falls. This catalytic project will build on and emphasize the historic features and core characteristics of the iconic destination that Falls Park is today, and help tell the story of its ecology, history, and cultural relevance. As one of the city's most famous and well-loved destinations, the park has immense potential to become something even greater and instrumental to the future of the city of Sioux Falls.

This is an incredible 146-acre site, and as you will see on the following pages, our team's designs are inspired, inclusive, and sensitive to the site's character, history, and climate. We are reimagining Falls Park into a more active destination, while highlighting its natural setting and the river's importance and story. Our design offers many different corners to explore, with a multitude of amenities and activities, creating vibrancy throughout. These flexible spaces will offer something for everyone, respond to seasons, adapt to change over time, and connect people through the public realm. And finally, there are also plenty of opportunities to connect to the river and the Falls, from kayak and canoe launches, to views where one can watch the river move its course downstream. We want to celebrate the relevance of the Falls in the life of the original settlers and people of Sioux Falls.

Site Analysis | Existing Park



Falls Park has a rich history and authentic cultural identity. The 146 acres of parkland welcomes a variety of different users and their recreational interests year-round. The Park is divided into four parts: Falls Park North, Proper, East, and West. While separated physically by roads, water, and popularity, the four parts distinctly connect in a repetition of historic architecture, quartzite outcroppings, and the snaking Big Sioux River. These natural features link generations to the history of Sioux Falls.

Falls Park North is a 62-acre section of parkland that is heavily wooded and has extreme elevation changes. A notable edge is Fall Park Drive, located to the South. This area has connections to the city's bike trail, includes a few infill properties still owned by non-government agencies, and is the location of the open-air structure most known for the farmer's market.

Falls Park Proper consists of 43 acres located just south of Falls Park North. This area offers many amenities that cater to a large group of users. Active and passive recreational activities include walking or biking and flexible spaces that host year-round special events, such as Winter Wonderland. Photography is also a draw for weddings, nature, family, or sunset photos. Notable architecture includes the Falls Park Visitor Information Center, the Observation Tower, and the historic Stockyards Ag Experience Barn.

Falls Park East is a 26-acre site separated by the Big Sioux River. Connection points across the river include a pedestrian bridge, a vehicular bridge on Falls Park Drive, and another vehicular bridge south of the Falls on 6th Street. Falls Park East has river access and an assortment of historic structures, including the Falls Overlook Café, originally a hydroelectric plant, and the Queen Bee Mill Ruins.

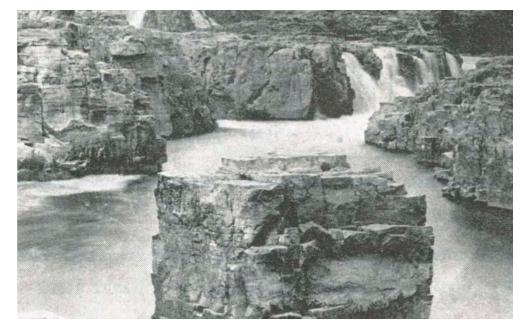
Finally, **Falls Park West** is the smallest of the four parts, at 15 acres. This area once was a landfill and is now a capped brownfield site mitigated in 2005. Like most of the park, this area has connections to the city trail system, but most importantly, this area acts as the main corridor connection between the heart of the park and downtown Sioux Falls. The main architectural feature, built in 2018, is the "Levitt at the Falls," a modern bandshell catering to large outdoor events and concerts.

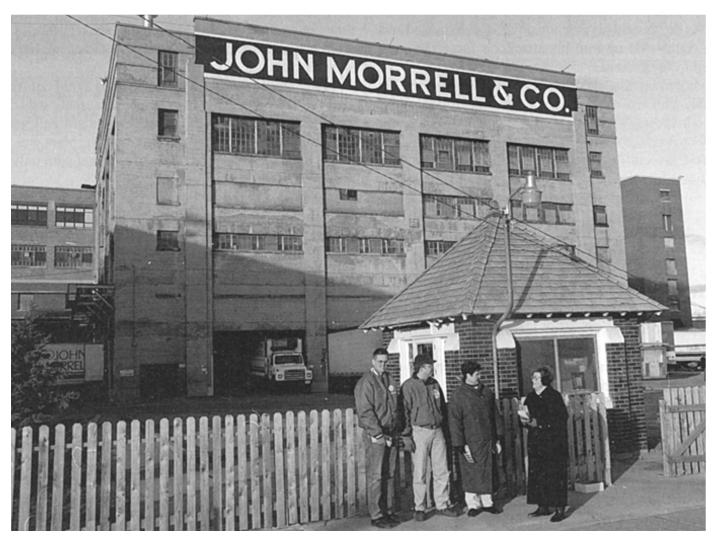
Site Analysis | Site History

Over the past 15 years, attendance within Falls Park has increased by over 65%. This is due to major investments from both the City of Sioux Falls and private entities. In recent decades, a newfound appreciation for the history and natural environment has sparked many investments and improvements to the downtown area along the Big Sioux River. It is hard to believe that before 1990, Falls Park and the adjacent downtown areas were largely neglected and the area provided virtually no cultural value or significance for the city's residents, let alone out-of-state visitors.

The building boom of Sioux Falls hit in the 1870s and early 1880s. Populations increased rapidly, and development was focused around the Falls of the Big Sioux River. However, not much attention was paid to the river's health or aesthetics. It was common in the 1800s to dump raw sewage and dead animals into the river. Quarry companies removed stone from the falls, and a dam was built for a hydroelectric plant. The channel on the west side of the Big Sioux River became a garbage dumping area. Dumping was encouraged by the railroad company until the channel was filled in 1908. This area makes up what is now considered Falls Park West.

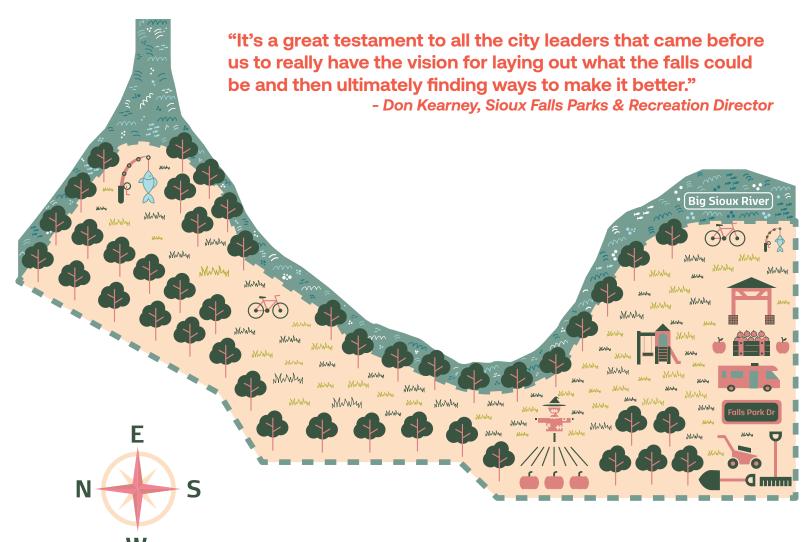
In the early 2000s, the city began a series of significant investments to revitalize its downtown, including Falls Park improvements. This entailed demolition and remediation of unused industrial sites, street and utility projects through the central business district, and park improvements. Improvements included two phases of the City's downtown river greenway and multiple streetscape improvements within the downtown core.



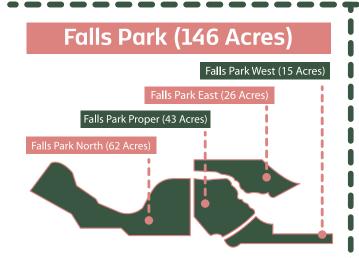


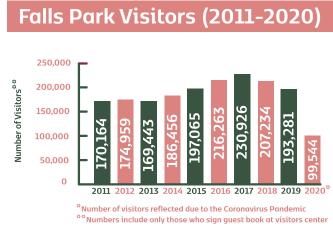


Falls Park | Demographics









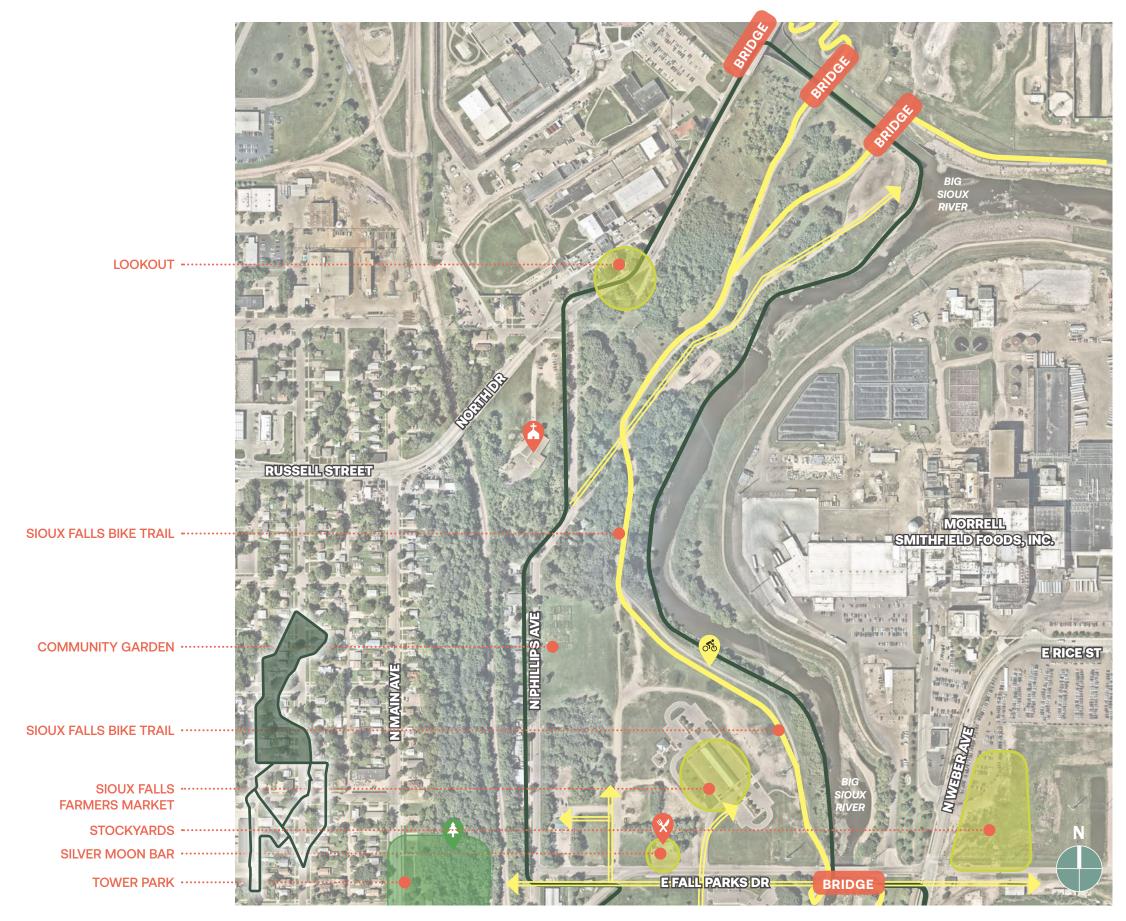




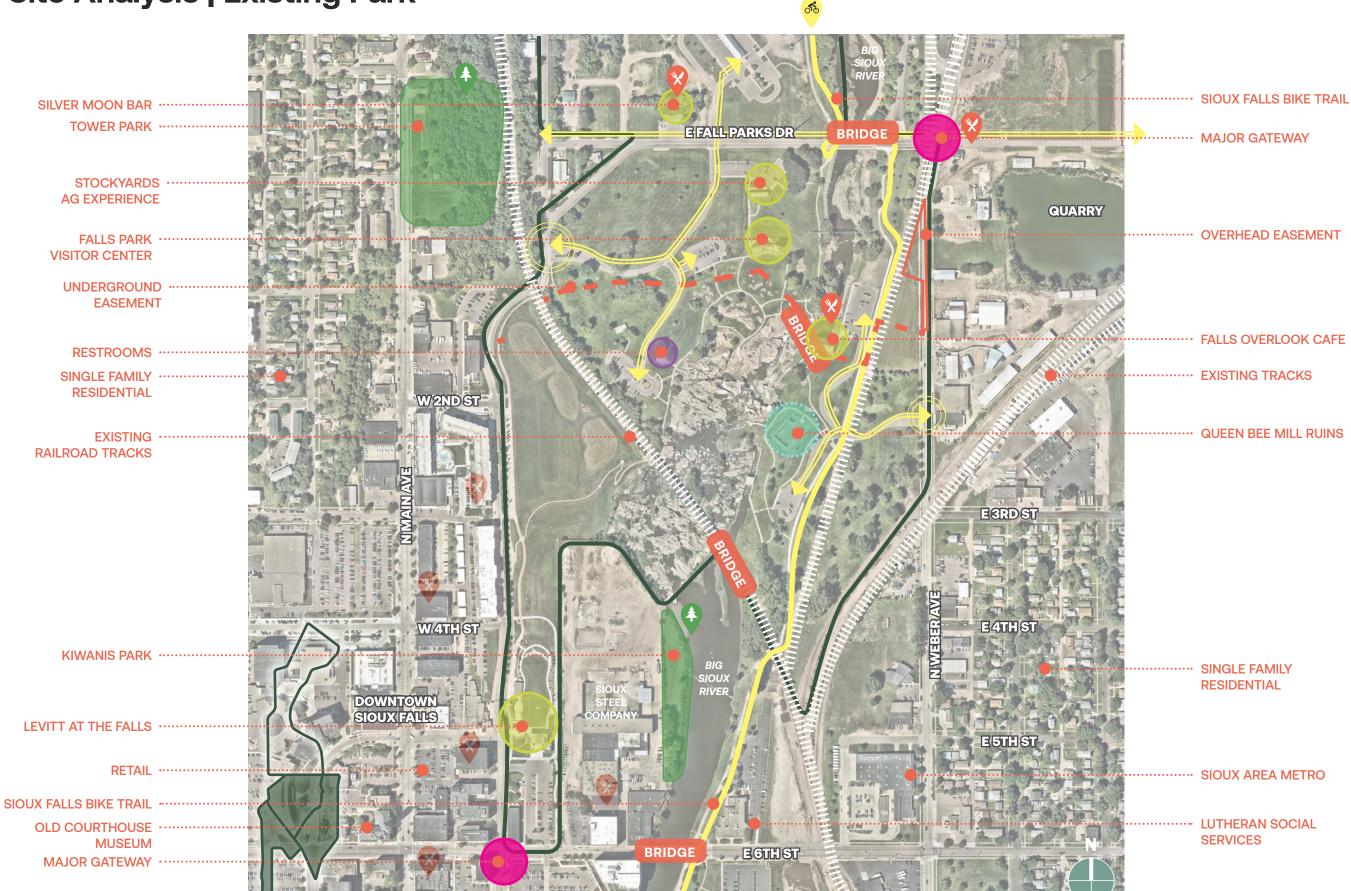
*Falls Park has seen visitors from over 70 countries



Site Analysis | Existing Park



Site Analysis | Existing Park



Site Analysis | Existing Conditions









Falls Overlook Cafe:

The 1908 quartzite building on the east bank of the Falls housed the Sioux Falls Light and Power Company hydroelectric plant until 1974. The building was remodeled and currently houses the Falls Overlook Café with indoor and outdoor seating overlooking the Falls.

Falls Park Visitor Information Center:

The best panoramic views of the Falls are from the 50 ft. observation tower located in the Falls Park Visitor Center. This building is also home to the Information Center.

Vehicular Crossing:

Falls Park Drive crosses the Big Sioux River via a two lane bridge with a separated pedestrian walkway on the south side of the bridge. A bike trail on both sides of the river pass under the bridge at this location.

Falls Overlook:

The Falls Overlook is located on the east side of the Big Sioux River, above the Falls. The site offers visitors amazing views of the falls, the city, and the entire park.

Site Analysis | Existing Conditions

The Falls:

The Sioux Falls city namesake, the Falls at Falls Park offer visitors an amazing display as an average of 7,400 gallons of water drop 100 feet over beautiful quartzite stone faces each second.

Falls Park Farmer's **Market:**

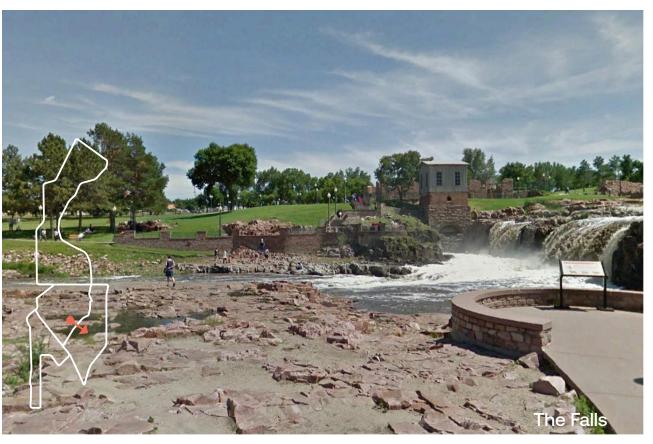
The Farmer's Market at Falls Park is an open air pavilion open yearly each Saturday, from May through October.

Queen Bee Mill Ruins:

In 1881, the seven story Queen Bee Mill opened on the east bank of the Falls, this building served the surrounding area for a number of years. In the mid 1900's a fire devastated the building resulting in an unsafe structure that was later knocked down. What is currently on site is the evidence of this history. In the recent years the space has been used for free Shakespeare theatrical performances.

Levitt at the Falls:

Levitt at the Falls was completed in 2019 and boasts an offering of 30-40 free professional concerts each summer as part of a private/ public relationship between the City of Sioux Falls, the local nonprofit Levitt at the Falls, and the National Levitt Foundation.













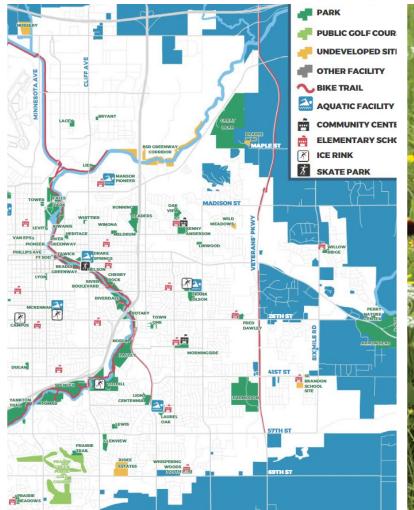
Sioux Falls | Community















Design Considerations | Big Ideas

Great Lawn

Frisbee

Overlook

Fishing Dock

Prairie

Historical Site

Ice Rink

Dog Park

Retail / Restaurants

Boat Launch

Band Shell

Skate Park / Bike Park

Children's Playground

Tough Mudder / Adventure Course

Canoe / Kayak

Sports Courts

Branding

Trails

Wedding Venue

Signage / Wayfinding

Whitewater Rapids Course

Zipline Course

Camping / RV
Winter Wonderland













Design Considerations | Great Lawn







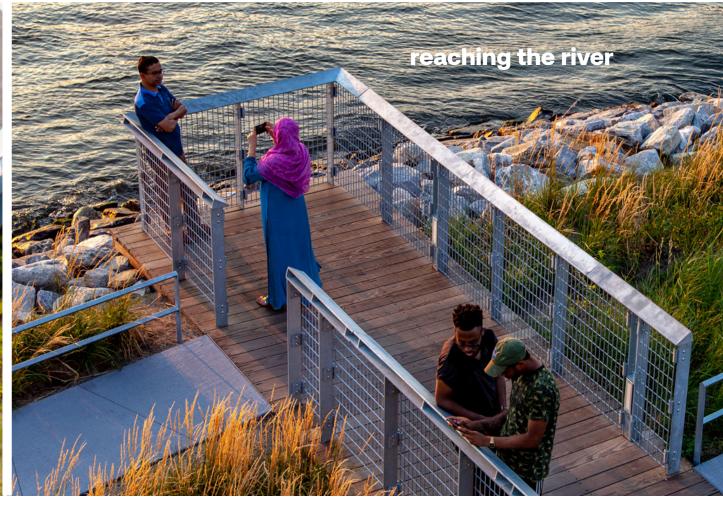


Design Considerations | Overlook

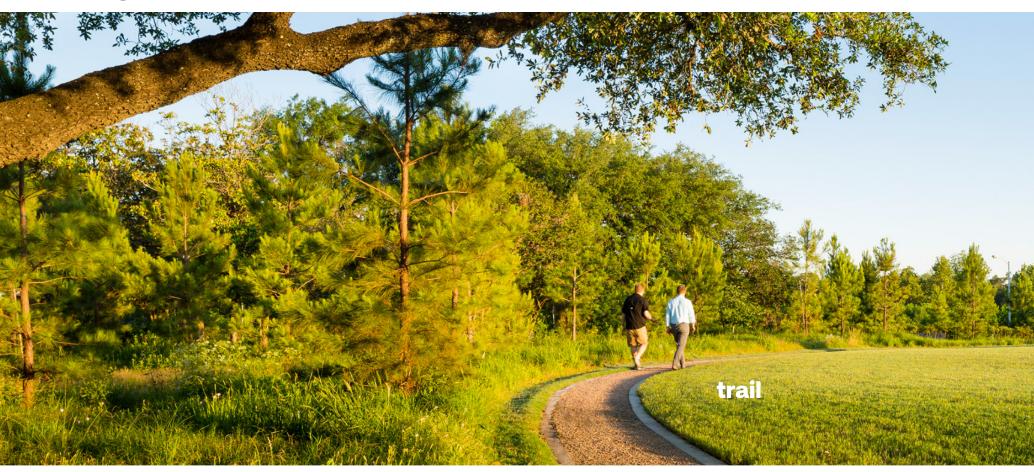








Design Considerations | Prairie







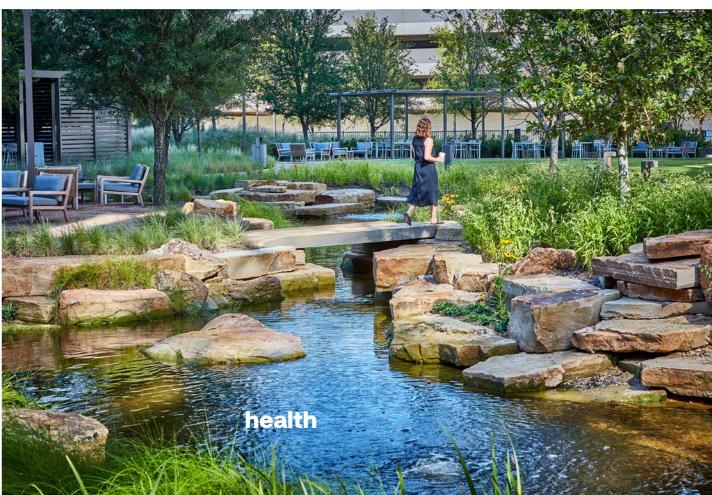


Design Considerations | River Restoration









Design Considerations | Children's Park / Adventure



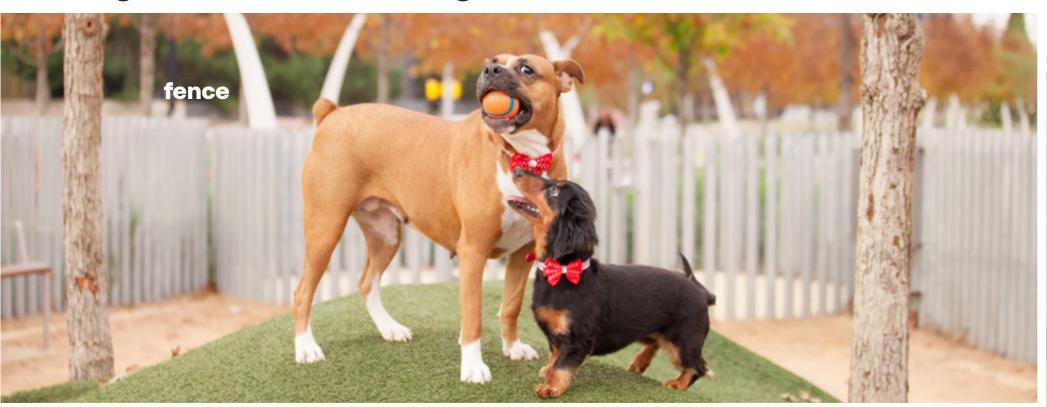








Design Considerations | Dog Park









Design Considerations | Retail & Restaurants









Design Considerations | Band Shell





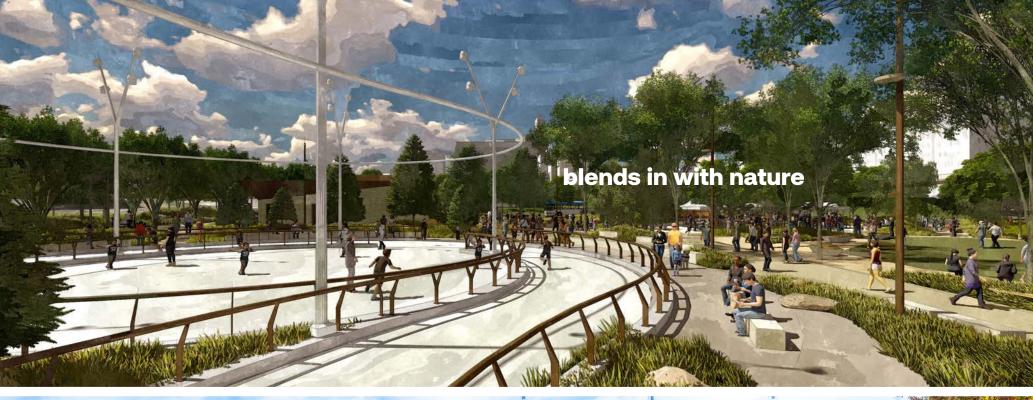






Design Considerations | Ice Skating Ribbon









Design Considerations | Tough Mudder / Adventure Course

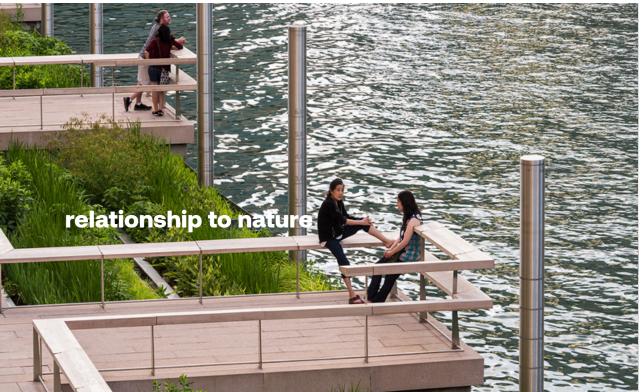






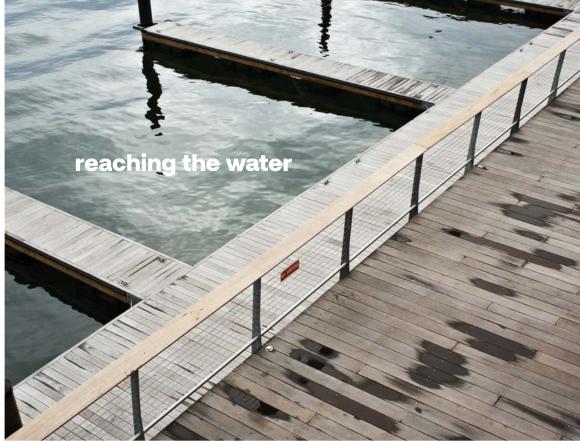


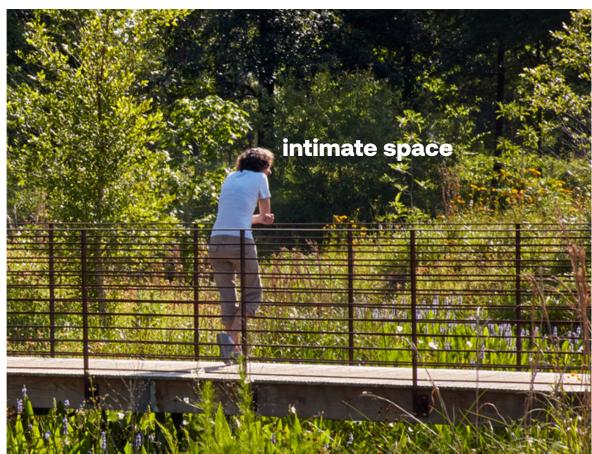
Design Considerations | Fishing Dock











Design Considerations | Boat / Canoe / Kayak Launch









Design Considerations | Sports Courts/ Trails











Design Considerations | Branding + Signage / Wayfinding





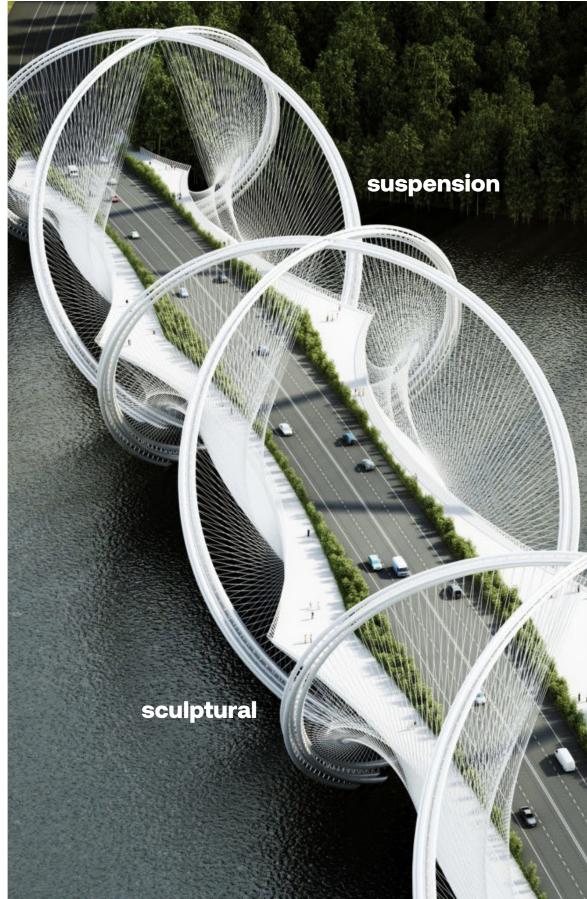






Design Considerations | Bridges

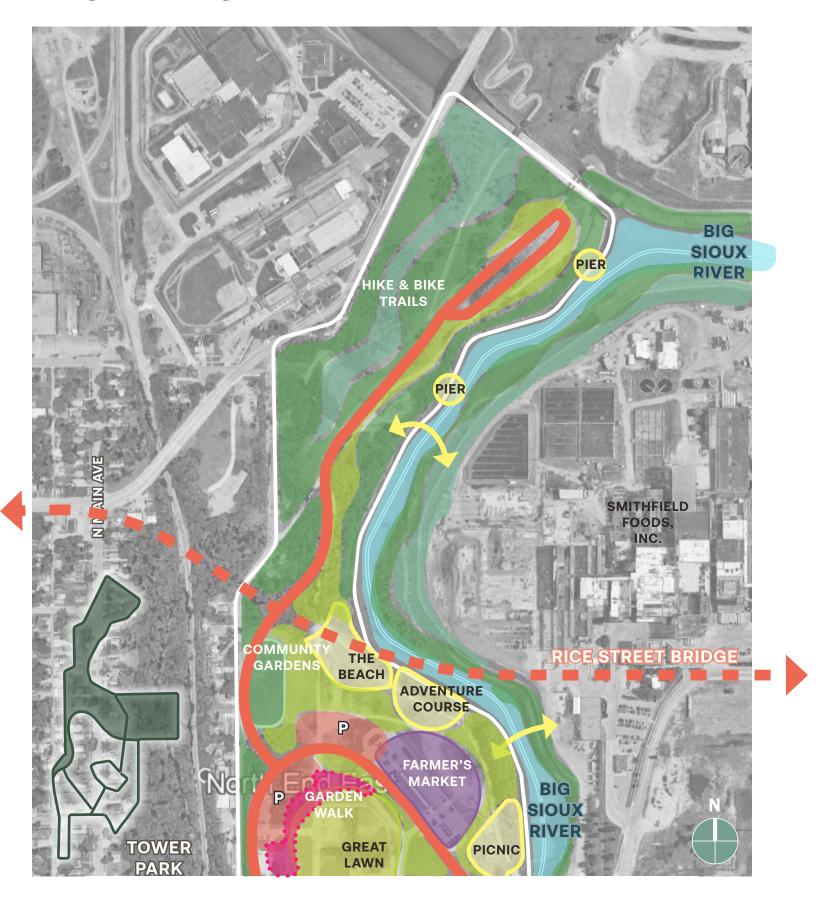


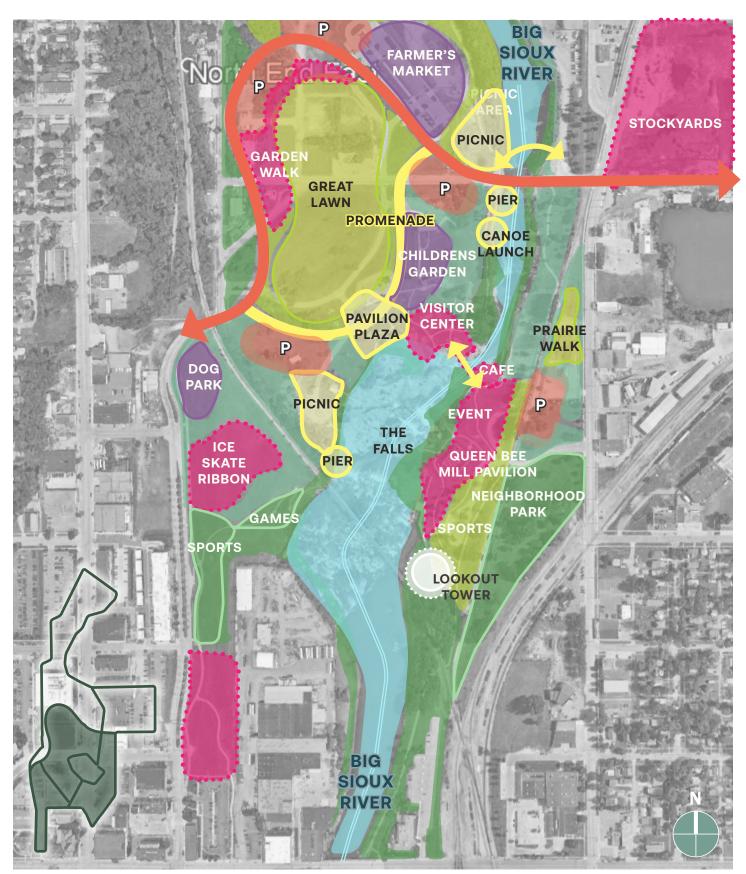


Master Plan



Program Diagram | Overall





Illustrative Plan | Overall

This Master Plan is a proposed framework utilizing a park-first design approach for transforming Falls Park. Its structure is made up of an array of overlapping assets and systems, which highlight the site's natural resources and thoughtfully consider site access and the overall user experience. It starts out at a large, neighborhood-wide scale and works down to the design of the many intimate spaces and intricate spatial connections. Changes to the overall park circulation are fundamental to provide the framework to build the finer design features.

First, this plan shows Phillips Avenue turning east as it passes Falls Park West and becomes Falls Park Drive. Falls Park Drive itself has been pushed further north, creating a gracefully swooping boulevard around the more programmed north portion of Falls Park. This keeps vehicular traffic away from most park users and increases user safety. Falls Park Drive then intersects with a newly aligned Weber Drive at the east side of the park. Weber Drive has been adjusted to intersect with Rice Street further east, allowing for a Rice Street connection and bridge to the corner of Russell Street and Main Avenue, far to the northwest. Because this connection will be built up as a bridge, Falls Park will be able to spill beneath the roadway, generally unaffected by the important roadway connection.

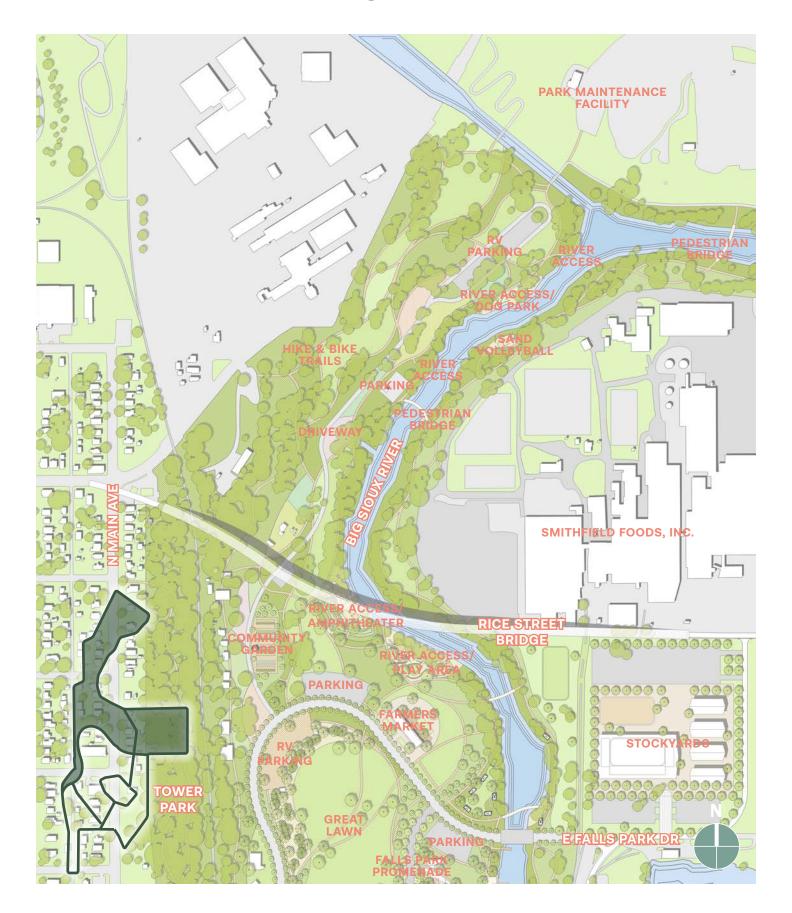
Sioux Falls has an impressive city-wide trail system that runs through this portion of downtown and connects directly to Falls Park. It is important to show how these connections will continue to function, bringing users to and through the site in an effective and interesting way. This includes pedestrian bridges across the river, raised boardwalks, and intentional viewsheds. Besides these wide trails, many pedestrian pathways cross the park, connecting the variety of spaces offered by this master plan.

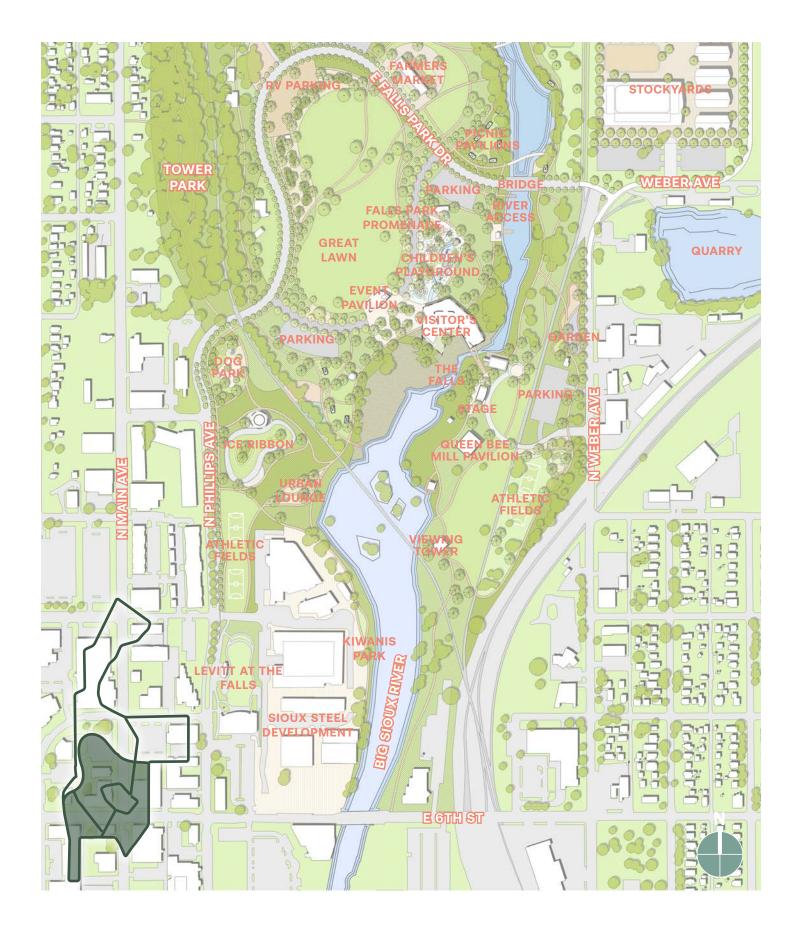
Our plan for Falls Park brings the local community and visitors from around the world together. New features and spaces like the children's garden, community gardens, dog parks, adventure parks, kayak/canoe launches, event pavilions, and areas to relax and gather are all possible and offer something for everyone. The design is flexible and dynamic to support a variety of programming and seasonal activities that can adapt and change over time. We also have looked for ways to promote an understanding of this remarkable ecology, so that education, protection, immersion, and celebration are all distinct outcomes of the design.





Illustrative Plan | Enlargement







Program Plan | Key Locations

The Master Plan can be broken down into these Key Locations and their programs. The following pages of this report address each of these programmed spaces in greater detail. COMMUNITY GARDEN STOCKYARDS WELLNESS HUB ··· **GREAT LAWN** ··· TAKE ME TO THE RIVER ······ CHILDREN'S GARDEN ······· THE VILLAGE ICE RINK / URBAN LOUNGE ··· THE NEIGHBORHOOD OVERLOOK TOWER



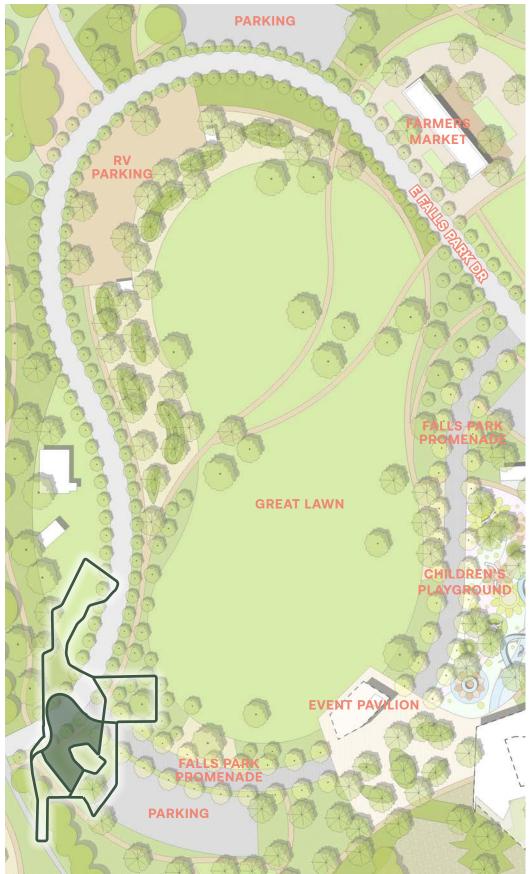
Renderings | Overall



Renderings | Overall



Program | The Great Lawn

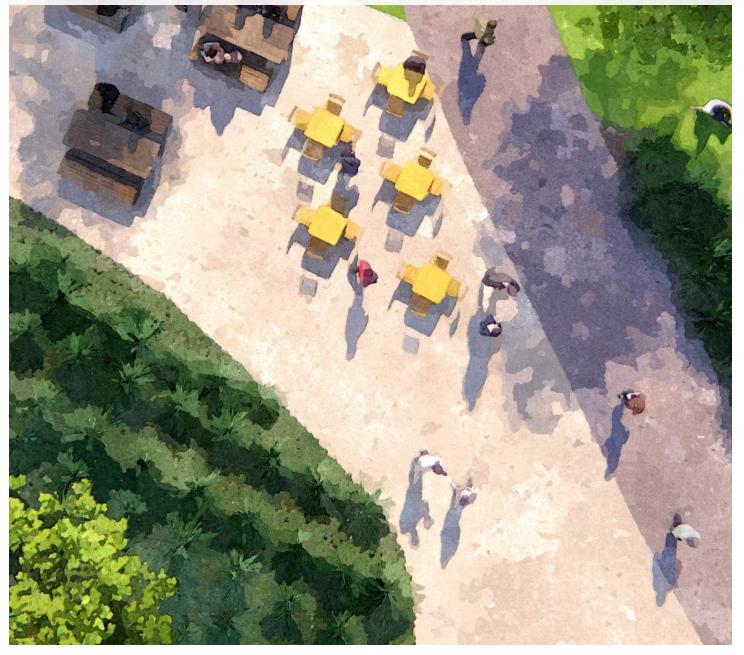


The Great Lawn is a large and sunny 15-acre site with soft edges to provide shade and flexible seating. It is the centerpiece of Falls Park and serves as the social and event center for Falls Park. The space is designed to support concerts, events, and other gatherings, such as picnics, pickup soccer games, or quiet moments of meditation. The Great Lawn features flexible plaza spaces, a Visitor's Center to the southeast. and seamless connections to nearby parking. A large Pavilion serves as a place for performances both large and small, and an iconic meeting place, providing shaded seating opportunities for viewing the park.

A parking lot that is sized for RVs, as well as a landscaped area that acts as a buffer to the relocated Falls Park Drive, sit to the northwest of the lawn. A promenade runs along the southeast side of the lawn and is a welcoming, pedestrian-only environment during the summer months, populated by walkers, joggers, and bicyclists. During special events, it becomes a flexible space and features a variety of programs, including food trucks, group classes, vendor tents, stages, and more. During the winter, the promenade becomes accessible by vehicles and serves as the main allure for the city's annual Winter Wonderland lights attraction.

"The pandemic put our park system, trails and golf courses front and center. When the only safe thing to do was to be outdoors in our wide-open spaces our park system was used at a level not seen before. The mental and physical health benefits of our park system were immeasurable and were essential to wellbeing of so many."

- Don Kearney, Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation Director



Program | The Great Lawn











Program | Children's Garden



An imaginative <u>Children's Garden</u>, different from the city's surrounding play destinations, will become a beloved and significant 1.6-acre space within the reimagined Falls Park. Locating the Children's Garden directly east of The Great Lawn and across the promenade is an intentional decision. The location closely connects the play area to The Village and Great Lawn, attracting and welcoming all families.

The garden is a beautiful nature-themed attraction that provides play opportunities for children ranging in age and ability. Attractions highlight the local materiality and fauna and mimic the natural ecology and exciting topography of Falls Park. These include a rippling water feature, shade, seating opportunities, mounding landscapes that emulate natural play, and sculptural play structures shaped like local fish. An accessible treehouse is also interwoven through the play area and mimics the winding Big Sioux River.

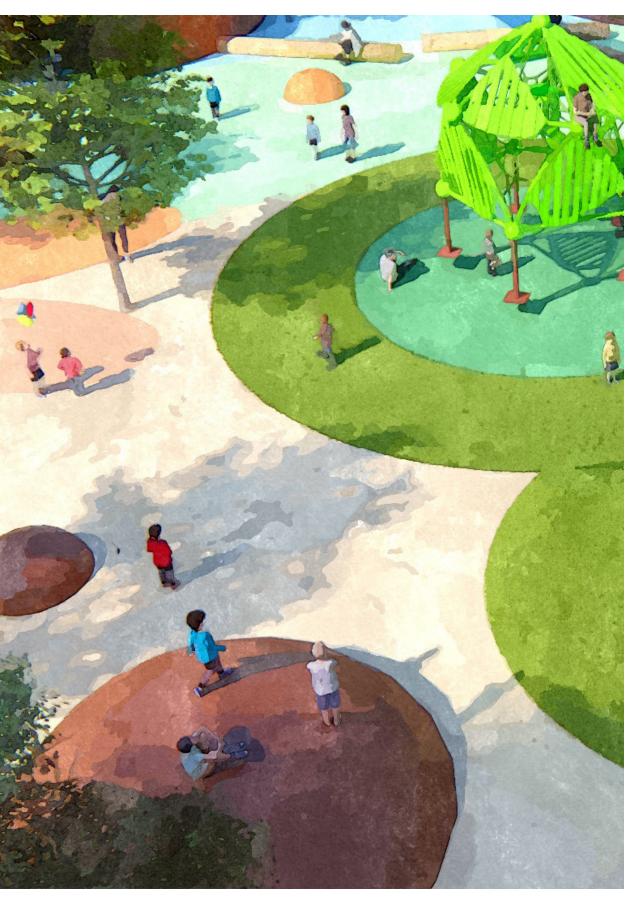




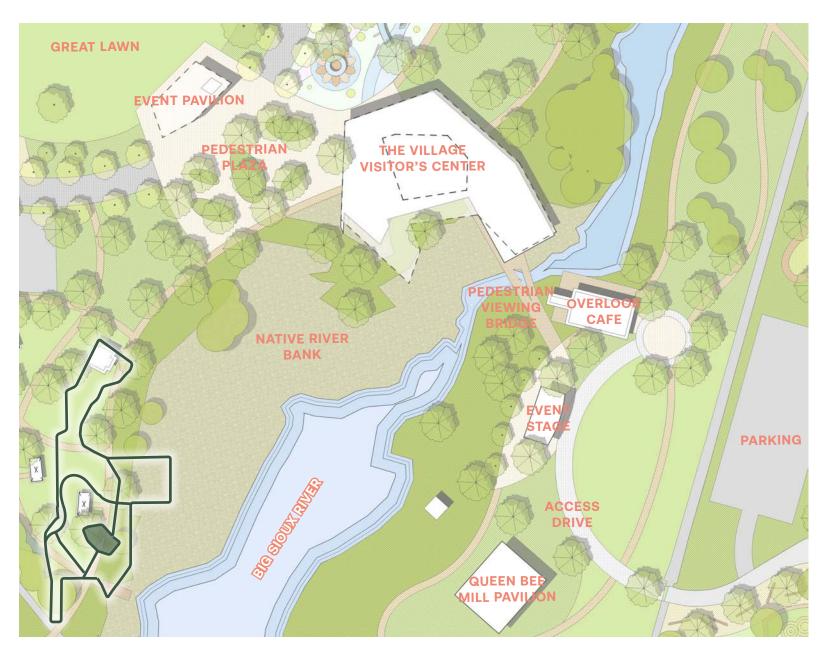
Program | Children's Garden

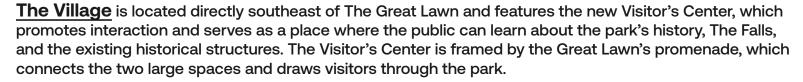


Program | Children's Garden







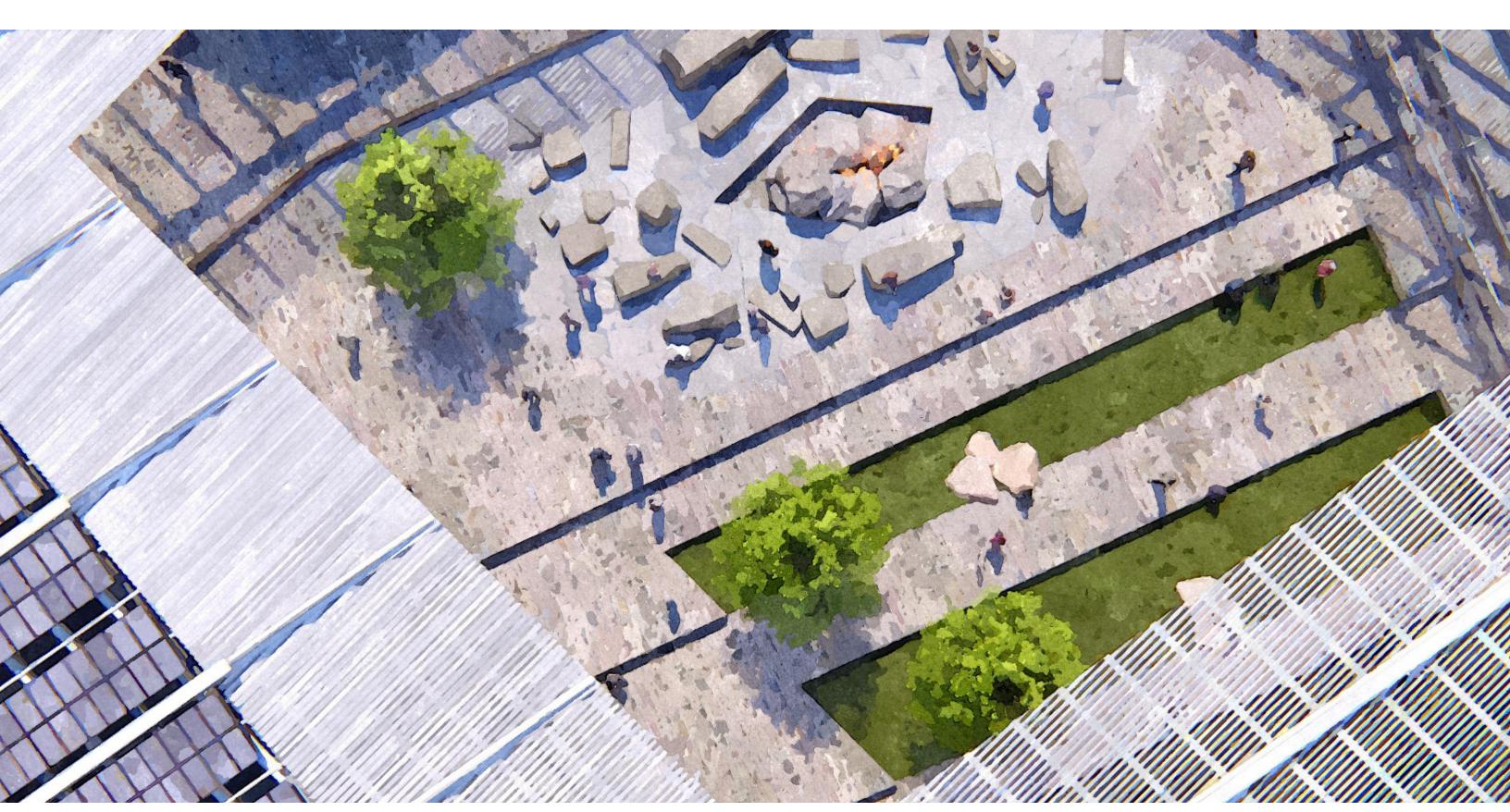


The Village embraces the park's natural beauty as well as the historic structures and buildings that still stand today. This area affords additional pedestrian access across The Falls with a new 25'-wide pedestrian bridge and architectural canopy, providing an identifiable and welcoming connection and creating unity across the Big Sioux River. Additional architecture within The Village includes the existing Falls Overlook building and cafe that will act as an extension of the Visitor's Center.













Visitor Center:

The new Visitor's Center is located on the west bank of the Big Sioux River immediately north of the Falls. The building anchors the pedestrian river bridge as it reaches across from the historic Light and Power Building, linking the two primary gathering areas of the park.

In the context of the built and natural history of the site, the new Visitor Center finds life in the riverbank rock formations, designed as if it was built by the same forces that created the falls and the jagged landscape of Falls Park. The primary masses appear to emerge from the riverbanks.

The building is divided into three distinct areas of activity, including an interpretive space & gift store, restrooms and support space, and an all-season outfitter shop, all arranged around a central courtyard. One focal point of the enclosed courtyard is a large fire pit shaped by quartzite boulders with seating for gathering and warming during the cold season. The various programs form a welcoming and active setting, creating a must-see destination when visiting the park.

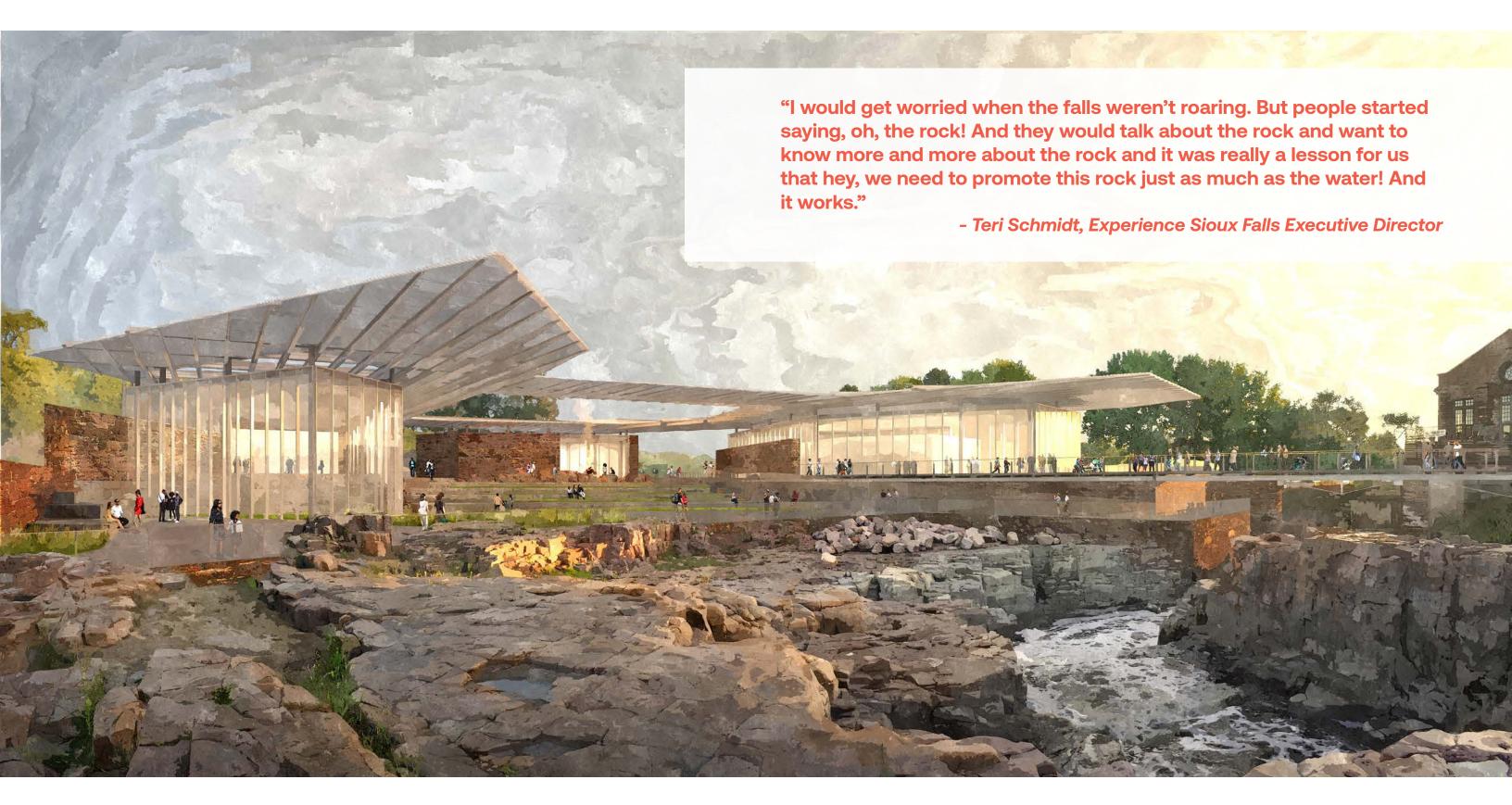
The quartzite and glass building forms are a porous series of masses that encourage circulation around and through the Visitor Center while framing views of the Falls. The landscape permeates through and between the building forms and under the gathering roof to create an engaging public theater for the river experience.

A light roof form hovers above the bold stone masses, providing shaded walkways at the courtyard perimeter and interiors. The canopy also acts as a frame toward the falls and the sky while defining a communal outdoor room around the courtyard's fire feature. Different portions of the canopy structure reach out toward the falls and the other buildings on the site, creating a sense of visual connection through the park. An array of solar panels is grouped overhead as an integral part of the roof structure, producing renewable solar energy to the facility.

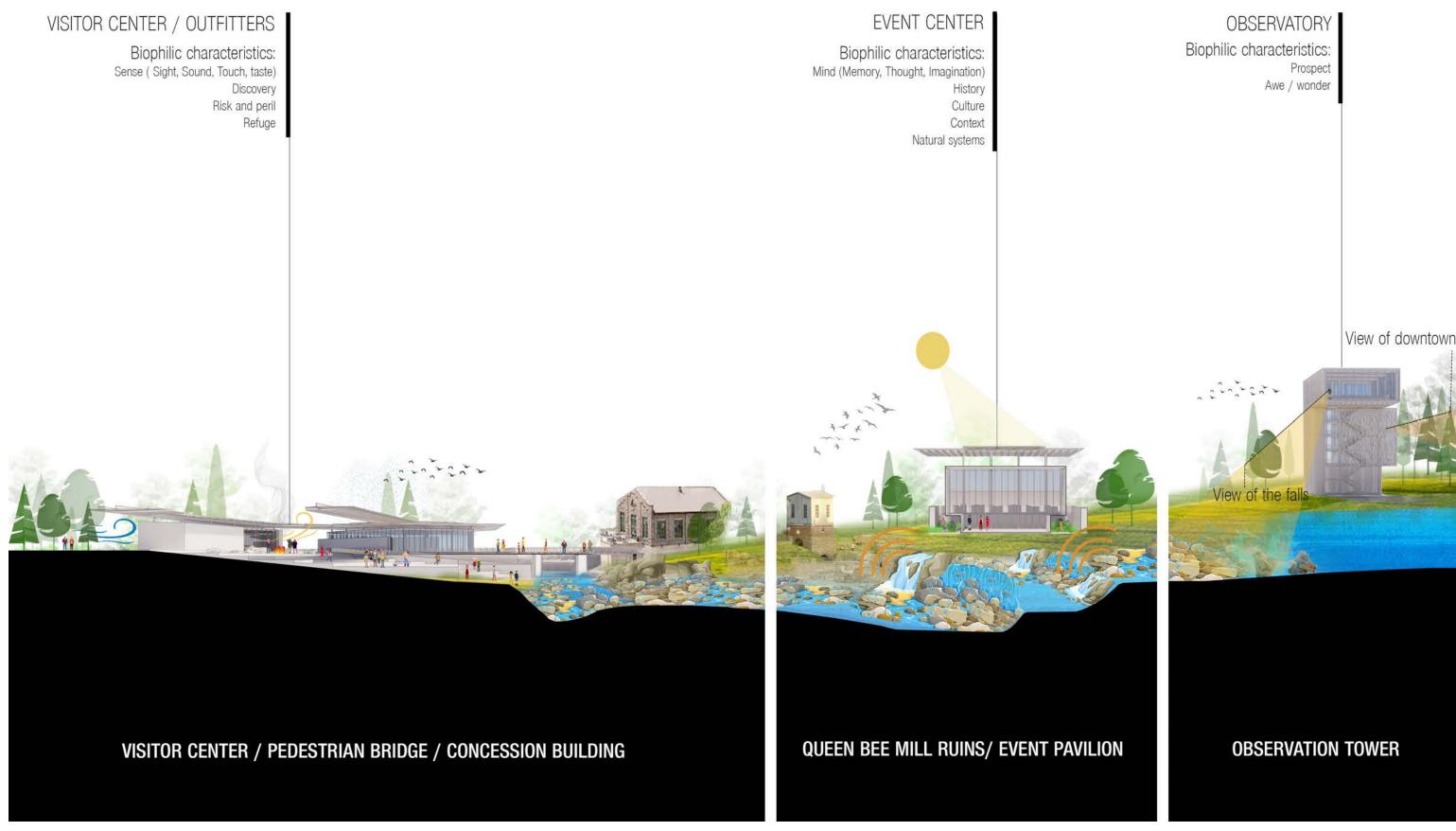








Program | The Village Site Section







The Neighborhood is located directly southeast of The Village. The Neighborhood is an 18-acre area adjacent to Whittier Neighborhood, a residential community in central Sioux Falls. This space will help accommodate the increasing number of local residents and includes a dog park, open activity lawn, event stage, sports fields, and a traditional playground. Walking paths and numerous seating opportunities offer additional places to linger and feature lesser-used local species among the extensive native landscape.

Architecture within The Neighborhood includes a viewing tower that offers birds-eye views of the park and the Queen Bee Mill Pavilion.





Queen Bee Mill Ruins Pavilion:

The existing ruin walls are left intact and undisturbed. The design celebrates and honors the overall Queen Bee Mill site as an artifact and remains as close to its current state as possible.

The design team envisions a light, minimal structural frame gently placed within the existing ruin wall perimeter that supports a brise soleil above the ruin's footprint. The canopy lightly floats over a glass gathering pavilion, surrounded by a garden within the ruins. The garden provides a sense of rejuvenation within a space that otherwise was a reminder of destruction and acts as a buffer between the pavilion and the ruin walls, helping to keep the walls physically protected.

A photovoltaic solar array is integrated into the shade canopy structure, providing sustainable power to the ruin site with the potential to assist in energy production for other structures throughout the park. Together with the existing concessions building, the new event pavilion and garden can support celebrations of many sizes without disturbing continuous public use of the park. Gently bringing new life and purpose to the remnant allows history to live and guide us forward.







Viewing Tower:

The Viewing Tower is situated to the south end of the park and acts as a beacon towards downtown, welcoming residents and visitors into the park. Its location near the highest elevation offers panoramic views of Falls Park and Sioux Falls.

The upper viewing platform is oriented toward the Falls and River as it meanders northward to take advantage of the spectacular views.

The uppermost viewing theater is enclosed within a conditioned space, allowing year-round comfort and accessibility for all park-goers. During the shoulder seasons, the glazing walls slide open, providing an indoor-outdoor connection.

The exterior cladding is composed of thermally modified, untreated, sustainably harvested pine slats, in homage to the adjacent railroad honoring its role in the industry of early Sioux Falls. Areas of the wood cladding are peeled away in a dappled pattern, mimicking the feeling of climbing a tree while the sunlight filters through the leaves and branches that compose the canopy. The canopy patterning occurs in the tower's two primary viewing areas and along the stairs leading to the top of the structure. The use of patterned wood slats wrapping the stair tower provides an immersive experience, encouraging users to use the stairs rather than the elevator to enjoy the thrill of climbing a tree.

A dramatic cantilevered box sits on top of the tower, creating a sense of jutting out over the landscape and designed to evoke the illusion of being perched high above the earth in a nest-like structure.



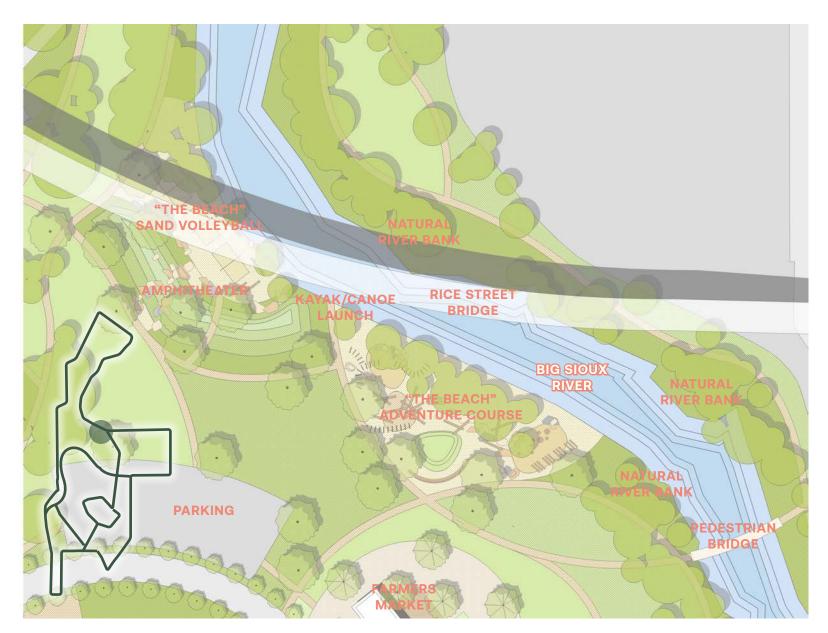
Program | The Stockyards | A Phasable Vision

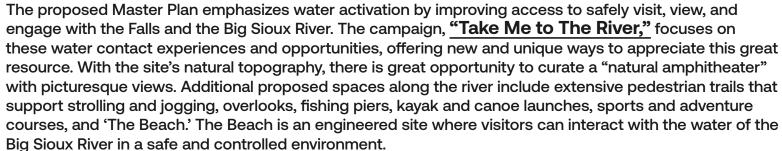




The history of **The Stockyards** is an important piece of the downtown Sioux Falls timeline, spanning most of the 20th century. New and current technologies have made the physical trading yards obsolete, closing trades at this site in 2009. This area has since been used as parking for the adjacent meat packaging plant. This Master Plan reclaims the site and creates a unique experience for visitors east of the Big Sioux River along a newly realigned Weber Avenue. The Stockyards provide a large arena that would house a Stockyards Museum and Learning Center. Just east of the arena would be a series of livestock barns for swine, poultry, sheep, cattle and other livestock. The structures are surrounded by a plaza and flexible space as well as parking lots to the north and south. Connections to the river and Falls Park Trails are made to the west near educational test crop plots. The site would be an impressive addition to the downtown landscape, providing a new service and making connections to the site's rich history.

Program | Take Me to the River





While the master plan will focus on drawing visitors towards the river, the overall health of the river must be elevated and maintained. Wildlife and ecosystems should be provided for with a variety of engineered ecosystems. Water quality should be improved and runoff and erosion of the Big Sioux River should be nonexistent. Without a functioning healthy river, the park would ultimately fail no matter the design and programming.



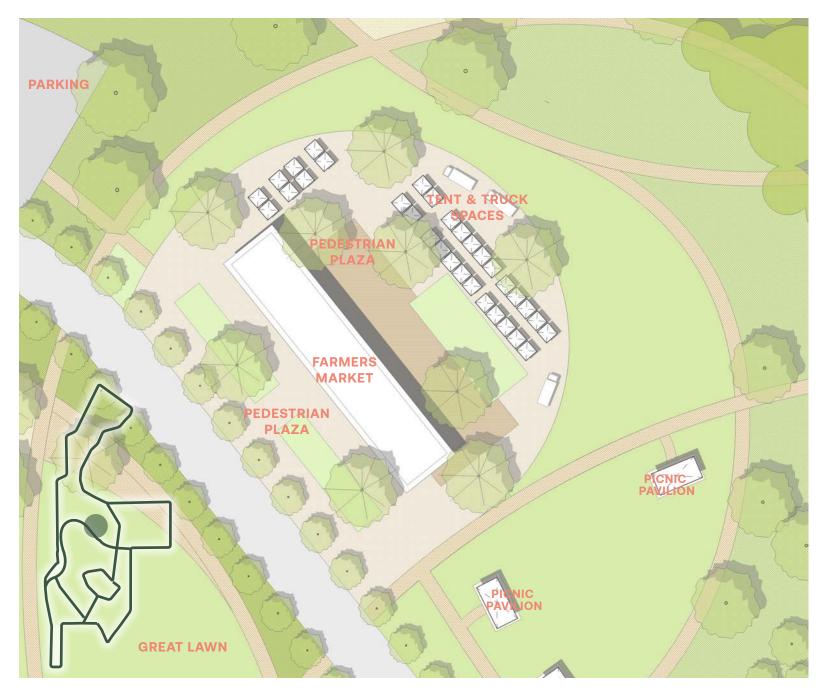


Program | Take Me To The River



Program | Take Me To The River





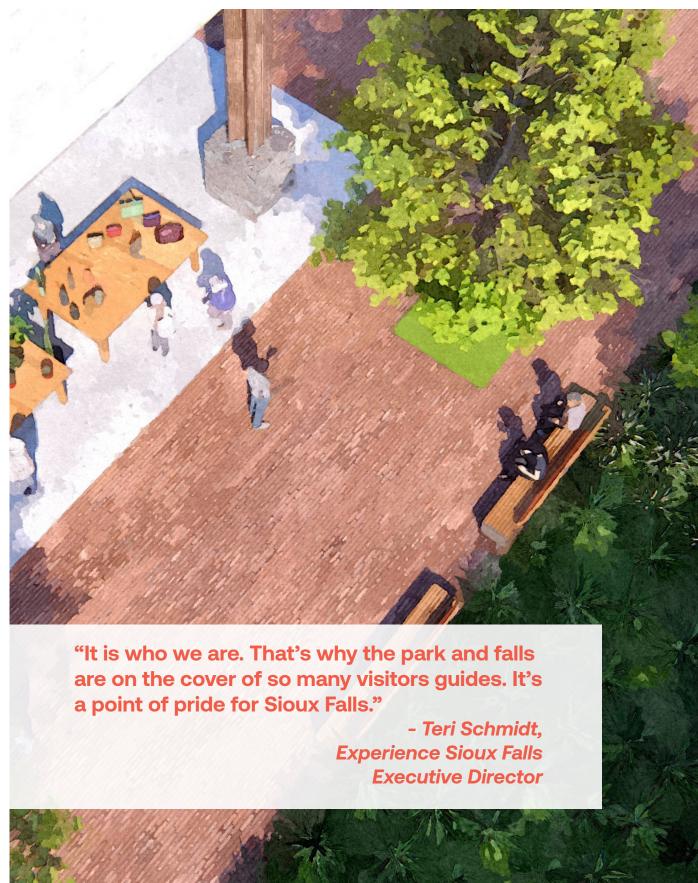
Social ties are important to the wellbeing of people in a community since they can bring positive health effects and community involvement. The Wellness Hub is located northeast of The Great Lawn, across Falls Park Drive, and consists of a large open-air pavilion with a surrounding hardscape plaza intended to host regularly scheduled farmers market events and local community events. The site programming is flexible and can also provide opportunities for many different types of private (rentable) and public events. The Wellness Hub also connects to a proposed Community Garden, which is integrated into our design to expand and enrich the creation of social ties and build a greater feeling of community.

















Park Activation



Why Activate Spaces

- + Increase attendance
- + Create safer places
- + Encourage new development
- + Create iconic destinations
- + Diversify user groups
- + Generate revenue
- + Establish an identity
- + Build community



Why Activate Spaces















Activated spaces should reflect the culture of the community



Activation Strategies



SIGNATURE EVENTS

Winter Holiday | Easter Egg Hunt | 4th of July



SEASONAL EVENTS

Summer Camp

Pumpkin Patch

Sweethearts in the Park: Valentine's Day



THIRD PARTY RENTALS

Weddings

Product Launches

Brand Activations



SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

Movies

Concert Series

Festivals + Markets



DAILY PROGRAMMING

Game Carts

Food Trucks

Arts + Crafts



WEEKLY PROGRAMMING

Yoga

Boot Camp

Storytelling Time



MONTHLY PROGRAMMING

Book Club

Dance Lessons

Creative Writing Workshop





Programming | Balance Active & Passive Uses









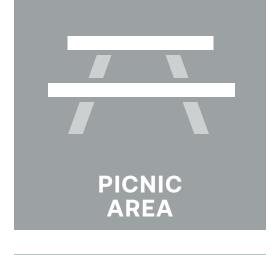














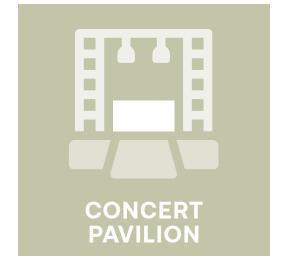
















Activation Considerations | Gaming









Activation Considerations | Year-Round Events











Activation Considerations | Dual Use Spaces / Seasonal Programming

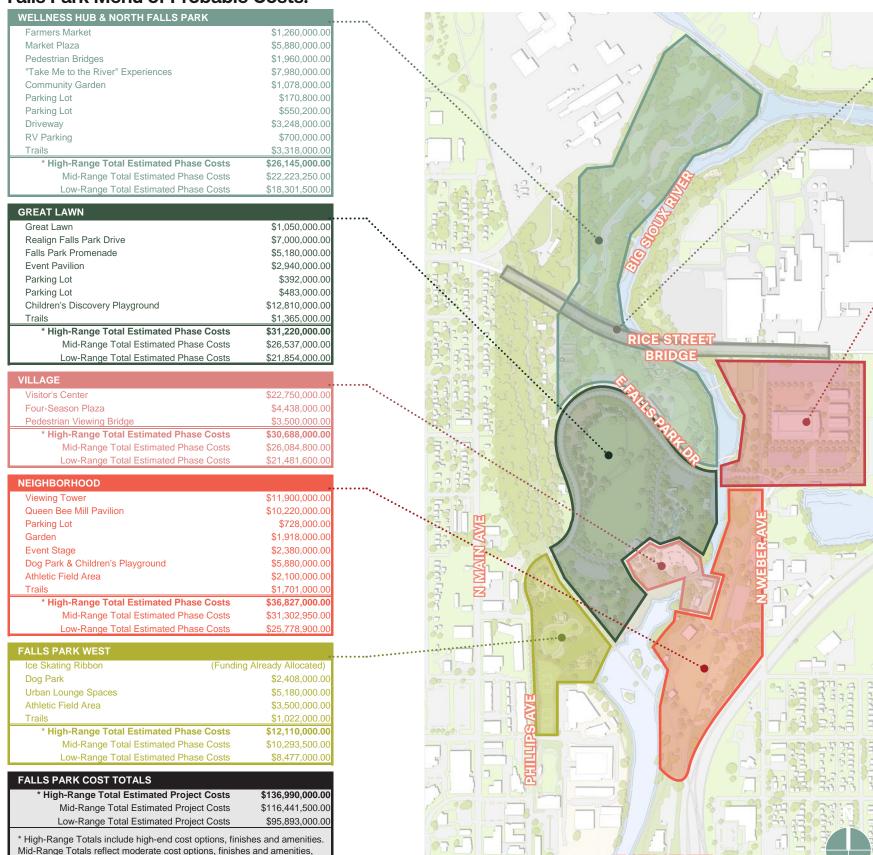


Activation Considerations | Dual Use Spaces / Seasonal Programming



Falls Park | Estimated Project Phasing & Costs

Falls Park Menu of Probable Costs:



The Greater Vision:

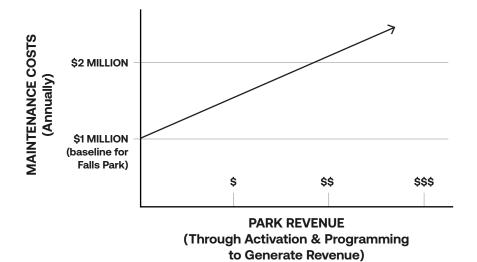
| RICE STREET BRIDGE - BASE | |
|--|-----------------|
| Rice Street Bridge (base) | \$59,500,000.00 |
| * High-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$59,500,000.00 |
| Mid-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$50,575,000.00 |
| Low-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$41,650,000.00 |

| RICE STREET BRIDGE - ADD ALTERNATE | |
|---|------------------|
| Rice Street Bridge Upgrade to Suspension Bridge | |
| (add to base) | \$126,000,000.00 |
| * High-Range Total Estimated Alternate Costs | \$126,000,000.00 |
| Mid-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$107,100,000.00 |
| Low-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$88,200,000.00 |

| STOCKYARDS | |
|--|-----------------|
| Realign Weber Avenue | \$5,180,000.00 |
| Parking Lot | \$2,800,000.00 |
| Food Plots | \$910,000.00 |
| Visitor Center / Arena | \$13,580,000.00 |
| Livestock Barns | \$16,800,000.00 |
| Pedestrian / Livestock Plaza | \$4,438,000.00 |
| * High-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$43,708,000.00 |
| Mid-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$37,151,800.00 |
| Low-Range Total Estimated Phase Costs | \$30,595,600.00 |

Maintenance Costs

Maintenance costs for the complete Falls Park Master Plan are estimated at \$1 million annually, with opportunities to increase as additional programming and events are brought into the park. These costs are intended to be offset by revenue generated from the park. This Master Plan allows for endless programming opportunities and activation, that if implemented would eventually offset operating costs for the city. The more investments made into the park and its programming, the more the park will provide for the City of Sioux Falls, both financially and culturally.



We look forward to discussing project cost modeling, programming, activation opportunities, and revenue generating models that our team has helped cities and parks implement around the country.



while Low-Range Totals reflect economical cost options, finishes and

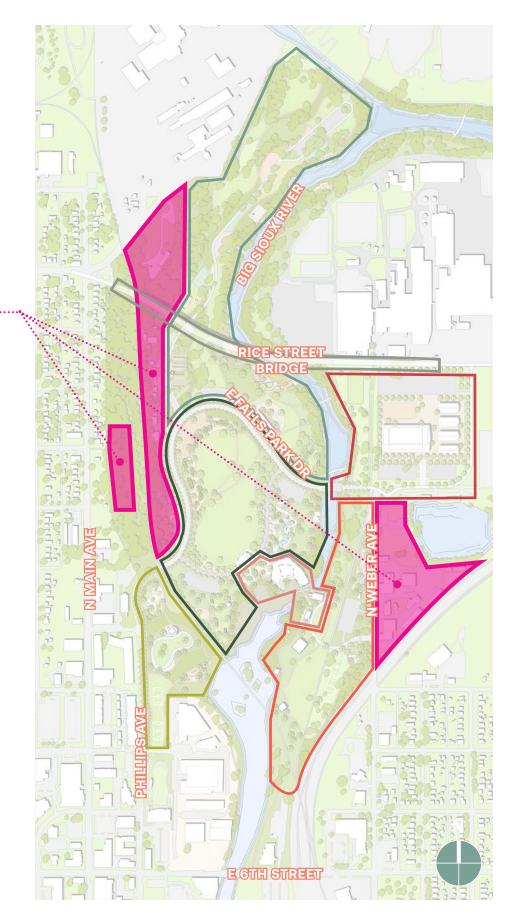
Falls Park | Development Opportunities

"Sioux Falls is a growing city with growing needs, and that requires a clear vision and shared set of goals for success. The One Sioux Falls framework will guide my administration's efforts to move Sioux Falls forward so we can be better today and be prepared far into the future."

- Sioux Falls Mayor Paul TenHaken

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Falls Park Master Plan is a Park-First plan, with an emphasis on Falls Park design and programming. Designing complex and engaging public spaces will ignite private investments directly adjacent the park and serve as a catalyst for not only downtown development, but growth throughout the city.









Conclusion

