Design Concepts

After gaining an understanding of community desires and giving form to the future of the downtown, the design team was finally prepared to develop ideas for the greenway and riverfront. Based on this information the design team produced a series of presentation boards that portrayed conceptual design alternatives for each project zone within the study area. The alternatives depicted included before and after sketches of some key areas as well as some detailed design ideas applicable to the entire 26-mile project area. The purpose of preparing this presentation of design concepts was to spark the imagination of the community while soliciting feedback during a second public workshop.
Project Zones

Sioux Falls Greenway & Riverfront Masterplan

Prepared for the City of Sioux Falls and Forward Sioux Falls | Prepared by Design Studios West, Inc.
# Top Ten Uses By Zone

## Zone 1

1. Riverside Dining
2. Pedestrian River Crossing
3. Amphitheater
4. Downtown Riverwalk
5. Integrated Sculpture
6. Attractive Bridge Treatment
7. Outdoor Market
8. Bike Trails
9. Entertainment Arena
10. Urban River Edge

## Zone 2

1. Natural Park With Shelter
2. Bike Trails
3. Boating Access
4. Wetland Area With Trail
5. Native Gardens
6. Kayak Course
7. Enhanced River Areas
8. Integrated Sculpture
9. Special Lighting
10. Enhanced Fish Habitat
Top Ten Uses By Zone

Zone 3
1. Pedestrian River Crossing
2. Natural Park With Shelter
3. Bike Trails
4. White Water Areas
5. Boating Access
6. Interpretive Signage
7. Fish Pond
8. Native Gardens
9. Kayak Course
10. Enhanced River Areas

Zone 4
1. Bike Trails
2. Safe Access To Water
3. Native Gardens
4. Constructed Wetland
5. Wetland Area With Trail
6. Natural Park With Shelter
7. Enhanced River Areas
8. Enhanced Fish Habitat
9. Fishing Area
10. Outdoor Classroom

Sioux Falls Greenway & Riverfront Masterplan
Prepared for the City of Sioux Falls and Forward Sioux Falls | Prepared by Design Studios West, Inc. // Spring 2004
Comments & Quotes

“Complete the trail loop and provide mile markers, benches and restroom facilities.”

“Create retail & entertainment district to help downtown business draw patrons on weeknights & weekends.”

“More people living, working and shopping downtown.”

“Create a terraced riverfront and amphitheater.”

“Create cross-country skiing trails.”
Questionnaire Response

86% of people surveyed say they use the greenway bike path.

The Top 5 parks used by people are Tuthill, Sertoma, Falls Park, Yankton Trail and Tomar.

94% of people surveyed would like to see a riverwalk that connects Falls Park to the Downtown.

Completing the trail loop was the most common comment by all surveyors.

Mixed Use, Retail and Entertainment venues were the most common theme for the Downtown area.
Zone #1 - Downtown Riverfront

- Falls Park
- Provide Trail Connecting To Falls Park On West Bank
- Provide Planting Screen To Adjacent Manufacturing Company
- Trail Access To Street Level
- "Low-Flow" Dam Location
- Downtown Station Point/Overlook
- Gateway Plaza With Obelisk
- Provide Safe Access To River Edge
- Soften Edge On West Side
- Drop-Off Gateway
- Downtown Station Point/Overlook
- Add Trees To Define Park And Performance Area
- Amphitheater At Fawick Park
- Dredge And Widen River In This Area
- Proposed Elevated Rail Line Location
- Narrow River and creat "Low-flow" Channel In This Area From The Railroad Crossing Down To 6th Street
- Provide Connections To The Greenway And Trail From Existing Uses
- Existing Building
- Proposed Building
- Provide Safe Access To River Edge
- Proposed Pedestrian Bridge
- Plaza Adjacent To Business
- Terraced Park
- Drop-Off To Greenway
- Low Walkway On East Side For Bike Traffic
- Upper Walkway And Plazas Adjacent To Businesses
- Create Pooling Areas
- Pedestrian Bridge
**River Sections**

**Existing Section Between 6th Street And Falls Park**

Existing Section Between 6th Street And Falls Park

**Existing**

- Wide Cross-Section of Big Sioux River
- Existing Trail
- High Water Level

**Proposed**

- Proposed Trail (To Falls Park)
- "Low Flow" Channel
- Narrow The River Cross Section
- Buffer Zone To Adjacent Manufacturing Company
- Narrowed Street

**Existing Section Between 8th And 10th Streets**

Existing Section Between 8th And 10th Streets

**Existing**

- City Street
- Channelbed Cross-Section
- Existing Trail
- Existing Walkway at Street Level
- "Low Flow" Channel
- Adjacent Industrial Land Use

**Proposed**

- Terraced Transition Down To Water Level
- Separated Trail From Park For Bikes & Pedestrians
- Upper Walkway For Pedestrian Only
- Potential Future Development
- Terraced Transition To New Development
- Narrowed Street
- High Water Level
- "Low Flow" Channel
Zone #1 - Before & After

Pedestrian Crossing and Riverfront Improvement

View 1

Before

After

Safe Access to River Edge

View 2

Before

After
Zone #1-Before & After

Riverwalk Between 8th and 10th Streets

Before

After

Amphitheater at Fawick Park

Before

After
Shared Boating and Kayaking proposed along this area for the YMCA Camp and general public. Extend boating season through use of a “Low-Flow” Channel. Proposed enhanced river edges and variety of safe boating access points.
Zone #2 - Before & After

Station Point/Overlook to River

Before

After

Kayak Course/Habitat Improvement

Before

After
Zone #3 - Westside Riverfront

- Potential Future Development
- Proposed Inflatable Dam
- Primary Station Point #9
- Dike Access (Proposed Trail)
- Skunk Creek Station Point #1
- Proposed Pedestrian Crossing
- Existing Trail
- River Plaza Park
- Secondary Station Point
- Meadows On The River
- Big Sioux River
- Minnehaha Golf Course
- Skunk Creek Station Point #1
- Minnehaha Golf Course
- Potential Park Area
- Plazas Adjacent To Greenway
- Drop-Off

NORTH
Zone #3 - Before & After

Station Point Along Trail Near Zoo

Before

After

Interpretive Art/Science/Nature Trail

Before

After
Zone #4 - The Confluence

- Extend Trail To Tree Nursery Park
- Enhanced Landscape
- Proposed Trail Planned For Completion in 2004
- Enhance Habitat Edge
- Existing Trail
- Existing Pedestrian Bridge
- Minnesota Avenue
- NORTH
Zone #4 - Outdoor Education Area

- Wetland Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Boardwalk
- Existing Trees
- Outdoor Classroom
- Garden/Study Plot
- Information/Restroom
- Parking and Bus Drop-off
- Pedestrian Bridge
- 60th Street
- Fishery

Sioux Falls Greenway & Riverfront Masterplan

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Zone #4—Before & After

Enhanced Landscape

Before

After

Completed Loop Trail

Before

After
Stations with Crossings
Stations with Improvements
Stations with Restrooms
Station Point Concepts

Station Point With Mile Marker

Station Points/Overlooks providing information such as trail, mileage, current location, environmental or historical facts will be located approximately every half mile on the entire 20 mile loop.

Section At Station Location

Station Structure Made Of Wood And Steel

Directional Information Signage
Station Points in the downtown shall be closer together and adopt a more urban character befitting a downtown.

A Variety Of Elements Including, Obelisks, Shade Structures And Informational Kiosks May Be Located Throughout Downtown.
Station Points

**Primary Station Points** – A covered rest stop with seating located every mile starting from Station “0” in Falls Park. Primary station points will have a variety of information and will be considered emergency contact points along the greenway system.

**Secondary Station Points** – An orientation station point with seating and mileage marker information only. These markers will be located at every half-mile point around the loop trail.
Station Points

**Outer Station Points** – A secondary station point outside of the main Sioux Falls greenway loop. These station points will help to link outer neighborhoods and other communities to the greenway. These markers will be primarily along Skunk Creek and out to Great Bear Recreation Park.

**Downtown Station Points** – A smaller and more urban station point with information, seating, and shading located every 300-500 feet on both sides of the river in the downtown.
Kit of Parts

The “kit of parts” or detailed design elements will be the glue that holds the entire greenway and riverfront development together. Signage, lighting, trash receptacles, bike racks accompanying the “rest-stop” station points, previously mentioned, will give people a sense of the greenway as a “place.” These elements, although sometimes overlooked, imply continuity, scale and measurement to the corridor that is very important to the success of the greenway and riverfront. The following are some of the parts and pieces that could be implemented along the Big Sioux River corridor.

Park Signage

Interpretive Signage
Kit of Parts

The design team would hope to take current City Parks & Recreation standards for these elements and build on them during a subsequent design guidelines phase for the Sioux Falls greenway and riverfront.
Design Precedents

- Accessible Plazas
- Art Bench
- Art Wall
- Dining At River Edge
- Green Areas
- Edges That Step Down To River
- Amphitheater
- Events Plaza
- Gateway To River
- Interpretive Signage
- Plaza At River Edge
- Trail