GROWING GREENWAYS:

A MULTIMODAL TRAIL SYSTEM FOR MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA

Daniel Nipstad | LA 572 Design Thesis | Spring 2015 | Primary Advisor: Jason Kost | Secondary Advisor: Matthew Kirkwood

FARGO-MOORHEAD FLOODING HISTORY:



FARGO-MOORHEAD FLOODING RESULTS IN MASS BUYOUTS:





www.mprnews.com | www.redcross.areavoices.com | www.commons.wikimedia.org | www.cityoffargo.com | www.water.areavoices.com

FARGO-MOORHEAD FLOODING RESULTS IN MASS BUYOUTS:



THESIS STATEMENT:

I propose a design for a Multimodal Greenway in the Red River Corridor of the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan area. I intend to demonstrate methods to increase local commuter options reduce automobile traffic and promote a healthier community.

PROJECT GOALS:

Designing for Alternative Transportation.

- Connect people to destinations by providing more sustainable alternative routes to motor vehicle transportation.
- Create strong connections to the existing public transit.
- Create safe, comfortable trails connecting larger green spaces along the Red River.
- Improve existing transportation system with introduction of a multimodal greenway.

Designing for the Community.

- Strengthen social bonds by creating destinations for community gathering and collaboration of all ages.
- Improve the quality of life and overall health of local users with sustainable choices.
- Change local commuter habits to more sustainable ones.

Designing for the Environment.

- Design a multimodal greenway to encourage users to engage and interact with the environment.
- Create more naturalist habitat.
- Design for flooding.

SITE SELECTION:

The site is located on river front parcels adjacent to the Red River in Moorhead, Minnesota, from I-94 to Main Avenue. Excluding Gooseberry Park, the rest of the parcels within the multimodal greenway make up 103 acres. Flooding has been a large issue in the past in the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan area. With the introduction of the greenway, I plan to use the land to produce a flood protection infrastructure by incorporating naturalistic wetlands. In addition the multimodal greenway provides a strong opportunity for local commuters to change current commuter habits to healthier more sustainable forms that can easily coexist with and benefit the current transportation systems of the metropolitan area. The multimodal greenway will become an escape from the busy city to a safe naturalistic trails to sustainable travel located in the parcels highlighted in the below isometric.



Site Flood Levels:

100 YEAR FLOOD EVENT: Approximate Elevation **900'**

MAJOR FLOOD EVENT: Approximate Elevation 892'

MINOR FLOOD EVENT: Approximate Elevation 880' Proposed Site for Greenway

SITE ANALYSIS:



CRASH INCIDENTS INVOLVING Pedestrians and Motor Vehicles:





GREENWAY SITE



How A Multimodal Greenway Could Help

Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments

2014 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

How can the addition of a multimodal greenway benefit the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan area? Reading into Metro COG's 2014 Long Range Transportation Plan I found many reasons why the metropolitan area would benefit from the introduction of a greenway such as the following:

- Vehicle miles traveled per year would lower
- Lower carbon emissions and improved air quality
- Lower traffic levels and road noise
- Faster emergency vehicular response time
- Lower infrastructure maintenance costs in roads and parking facilities





Encouraging More involvement:

The Dero Zap Program

Participants of the program are entered to win prizes depending on there personal level of activity in the program. Local supporting businesses may offer discounts to customers who participate or incorporate insurance benefits to employees who participate.





2 Scanners detect users as



Use Dero's web app to track your activity.



BICYCLE.

Research Hypothesis:

By introducing a multimodal greenway with progressive flood control and an incentive program we can change transportation patterns. Improving the health of the community by lowering the number of vehicles on the road, lower traffic levels for safer streets and emergency response time as well as the city's budget for infrastructure such as street repair and additional parking. It can also dramatically effect individual health by increasing ones physical activity and relations in the community and lower the average vehicle miles traveled in the metropolitan area. Lowering the number of vehicle miles traveled in the metropolitan region means lowering the traffic levels which will cut down on carbon emissions improving air quality and noise pollution. Once established I expect great success in number of users and improvements to the community as well as future expansion to include all the parcels adjacent to the Red River.

MASTER PLAN:





300'

700

1500'

MASTER PLAN:





300'

700

1500'

MASTER PLAN:





300'

1500'

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE SITE PLAN:

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE TRANSITION SECTION CUT:

TRAIL LIGHT WITH BENCH

OUTLOOK DECK

Pedestrian Bridge

MAIN TRAIL SECONDARY TRAIL PRAIRIE Mowed Turf

NOTE: The bridge is built up to the Major Flood Level with an elevation of **893'** so that it can be used year round or at least most of the year.



Community Center Site Plan:











CONCLUSION:

With the city's property growth along the Red River due to the current buyouts we can do more than simply construct new levees. We can use the properties to develop an uninterrupted multimodal greenway that can coexist with flood protection measures. Introduction of such a greenway would become an asset to the city as well as its residents In improving the transportation of individuals and the overall community health of the metropolitan region.



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