Moorhead Public Library Collective 905 Main Ave, MHD
New Urbanism - The Modern Tool to Re-Engage Meaningful Connections

Communities are continually following social life cycles, growing and decaying as society fluctuates. In order to establish a positive connection between advancement and growth one must develop a guiding principle. This thesis defines the ideals of a modern and holistic movement, New Urbanism, and utilizes the basic principles in order to redevelop a decayed and decapitated urban site. By incorporating basic ideas we are able to re-evaluate a social area that is void of culture and individuality into a pedestrian focused hot spot.

The project is focused on rezoning commercial property in order to create a density and demographic that will help rebuild a crumbling economic area. By incorporating civic, commercial, retail, and residential properties into a shared space we can promote positively used space and begin to refocus urban importance, reducing sprawl in an organic and feasible solution.

Relocating the central focus, Moorhead Public Library, allows the site to serve a wider range of individuals while creating a multi-faceted interface that reconnects with the area as a whole.

SITE COMPARISON Planned New Urbanism Development
Existing Conditions

LIBRARY FLOOR PLANS

The library is designed to form to the surrounding context, the form and layout follows a planar schematic in order to adapt to existing conditions and be part of the basic layout of the area instead of standing alone. Spaces within the library are fluctuated accordingly to allow for spatial adaptation instead of using the exterior form to dictate final use and designation.

SHADOW STUDY In order to utilize the site year around, shadow studies needed to be involved in the design phase. By experimenting with variable sun orientations spatial planning becomes more effective and adapts more appropriately to the Moorhead solar environment.