New Urbanism: A modern tool to re-establish connections
Thesis Abstract

• Communities continue to expand, sprawl, and diverge
• The central focus of societies continue to excel outwards
• Standard growth practices lead to under utilized urban space
Can societies utilize New Urbanism principles in a modern fashion in order to revitalize and re-create community connections?
• Re-evaluate the need for human comfort and quality of life
• Re-designate people as the benefactor not industrial entities
• Re-establish urban importance without waste
Moorhead Master Plan Ideas
Main Ave Re-development

Enhance the intersection of 8th Street and Main Avenue as the primary downtown gateway
- enhanced crosswalk
- lighting and signage
- gateway intersection
- bicycle and pedestrian improvements

2 Story Mixed Use Commercial
- 2nd-Story Office / Residential
- shared parking

3 Story Mixed Use Infill
- 1st-Story Commercial
- 2nd-3rd Story Residential
Site Re-development Plan

3 Story Mixed Use Infill
- 1st-Story Commercial
- 2nd-3rd Story Residential

1 Story Infill
- Commercial
- shared parking

2 Story Mixed Commercial / Office
- shared parking

2 Story Mixed Commercial / Office

Enhance Main Avenue
- streetscape enhancements
- bicycle and pedestrian improvements
- new street trees
- enhanced lighting and signage
Site Selection – Moorhead, MN
Stagnate Site Development
Site Analysis

East Elevation Existing

West Elevation Existing

North Elevation Existing

South Elevation Existing

[Site Analysis Diagram]
Proposed Dispersion
• Establish a centralized location for community growth
• Re-locate the community library to promote better coverage
• Create a higher density environment to decrease sprawl
• Re-energize a dilapidated down-town environment
Process Exploration
Form and Material Development

- SIP Panel
- Reclaimed Siding
- Translucent Concrete
- Recycled Steel
Focused New Urbanism Principles
Connectivity
- Recentering allows for greater access
Increased Walkability
- Increase Pedestrian Focus
- Minimize vehicular focus
Mixed-Use
- Commercial
- Civic
- Housing
  - Single family
  - Mixed Apartments

Positive Site Use
Lower Level
Main Level
• Spatial design was emphasized to allow for linear progression
• Interior space was designed for sectional dispersion
• Designed to promote positive ventilation and human flow
Final Design Solution  Main Collection Space
Final Design Solution Public Courtyard
Final Design Solution  Entry and Children’s Space
Thank You – Questions?