# THE LANDING PARK OF THE MID-AMERICAN STEEL **BRIDGING THE PAST AND FUTURE THROUGH SOUNDSCAPE ANALYSIS**

# INTRODUCTION

Nestled along the banks of the Red River, downtown Fargo, North Dakota, stands as a dynamic testament to the evolution of urban landscapes. In this thriving city, where history intersects with innovation, a bold vision has taken root on the historic grounds of the Mid-American Steel site. The Mid-American Steel Site Landing Park Project is poised to breathe new life into this historically significant location, fostering a harmonious blend of green spaces and modern urban living.

## PREMISE

- A park that integrates historical elements of the Mid-America Steel site with a forward-looking design.
- Focusing on creating a soundscape that reflects both the industrial past and the evolving future of the area.
- The project aims to use sound as a medium to create a harmonious blend of natural and mechanical Sounds that reflect the site's transformation from a steel manufacturing hub to an urban retreat.
- Significant aspects of the steel industry are represented through design narratives that tell the site's story and its transformation.

# RESEARCH

- The redevelopment of this historic site into a vibrant and sustainable urban park.
- The trans-formative potential of soundscape analysis is a space that resonates with both history and modernity.
- This research aims to capture the auditory essence of the site and integrate it into a contemporary park setting. This approach is about preserving historical soundscapes and understanding and creating a sonic environment that enhances the visitor experience.

# OBJECTIVES

### **Objective-1**

Cultural history: Incorporate and highlight any remaining industrial structures or artifacts, turning them into focal points or integrating them into the landscape. These elements can serve as reminders of the site's history.

### **Objective-2**

Soundscape quality: The track is passed through the design site, and soundscape is a vital consideration that needs to be minimized by testing different landscape components such as plantation and berm.

### **Objective-3**

Ecological processes: Linking two historical events with the harmony of landscape elements and blending traditional landscaping with modern design elements to create a unique aesthetic that acknowledges the past while looking forward.

### **CULTURAL HISTORY OF MID-AMERICAN STEEL**

- The Fargo Foundry, established in 1905.
- Located near the Red River at 92 N.P. Avenue.
- The firm was started by Kalmen and Parsons as a machine shop at the corner of N.P. Avenue and 1st Avenue North.
- About 1973-74, the Foundry changed its name to Mid America Steel to reflect its own change from a foundry (which it closed in 1978) to a steel fabrication company.













### SOUND LEVEL WITH TRAIN MOVEMENT



# OLD RAIL TRACK (P-1)

The perspective shows the old rail line transformed into a landscape that allows walking in planting beds on exposed rail tracks.





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# **SCALE-1:20** II This plan demonstrates pedestrian crossing of the rail track, sound walls and soil berm for soundscapes improvements and bioswales for rainwater collection.

RECOMMENDATION Recommendation For Viaduct Rail Track

# PERSPECTIVE OF SOUND WALL & PEDESTRIAN CROSSING (P-2)



![](_page_3_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_3_Picture_4.jpeg)

# **SECTION OF BIOSWALE (Y1-Y1)**

pond.

II This section exhibits bioswales for rain and surface water collection before being connected to the retention

![](_page_3_Picture_14.jpeg)

Permeable Pavement - - - -Perforated Pipe - - - - - -

# **STREETSCAPE ECOLOGY (P-4)**

This detail shows the street components with rain and surface water collection methods to make a sustainable park environment.

![](_page_3_Picture_18.jpeg)

![](_page_3_Picture_20.jpeg)

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---- Gravel Road **RAIN GARDEN (P-5)** II This detail exhibits the water flow structure of the rain garden.