



CITY OF FOND DU LAC RIVERFRONT PLAN

July 28, 2022, Pop Up Meeting #1



Project Team

- Lead City Contact – Dyann Benson, AICP, Community Development Director
- The City hired MSA (a team of planners, landscape architects, and engineers) to assist with the project.



Becky Binz, AICP
Housing & Recreational Specialist



Raine Gardner
Team Leader/ Senior Engineer



Dan Schmitt
Landscape Architect



Brian Wiedenfeld
Planning Intern



Hannah Cramer
Landscape Architectural Intern

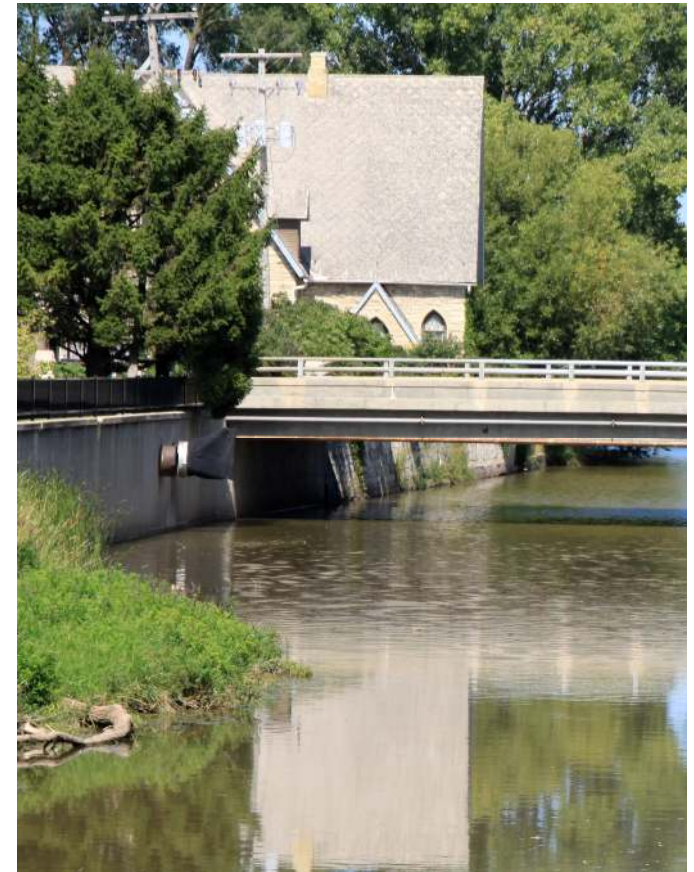


Project Purpose

The riverfront plan will focus on improving the aesthetics, activity, and infrastructure along the East Branch of the Fond du Lac River that flows through the downtown area.

Goals

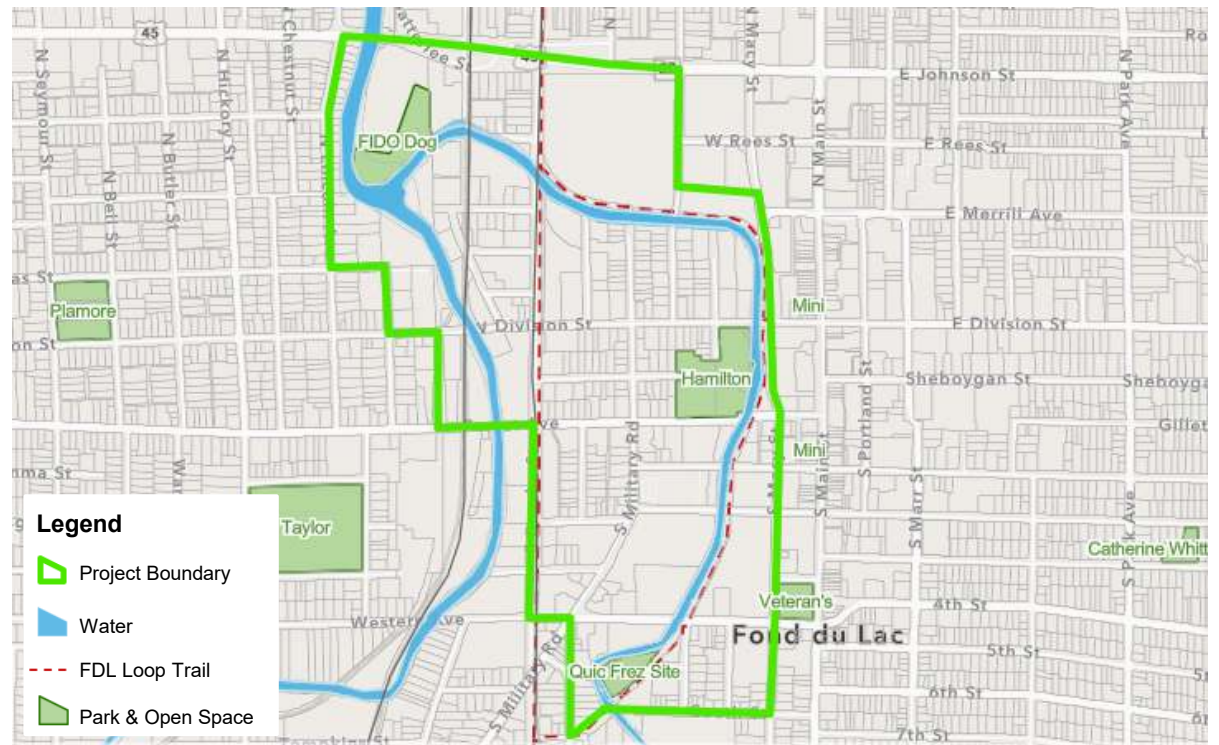
- Develop a strategic plan to enliven the general riverfront area
- Engage with a broad cross-section of residents to identify key improvements
- Assess potential funding and capital investment opportunities



Project Area

Major sites along the riverfront that this plan will incorporate are:

- Quic Freze Site
- Hamilton Park
- Riverwalk
- Fond du Lac Loop Trail
- FIDO Dog Park
- Surrounding neighborhoods



Existing Plans

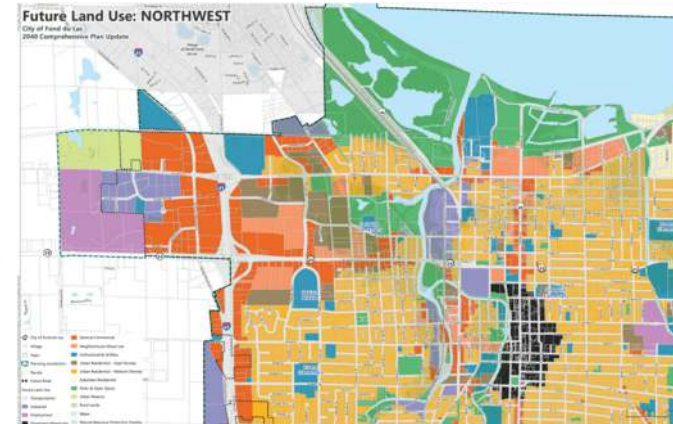
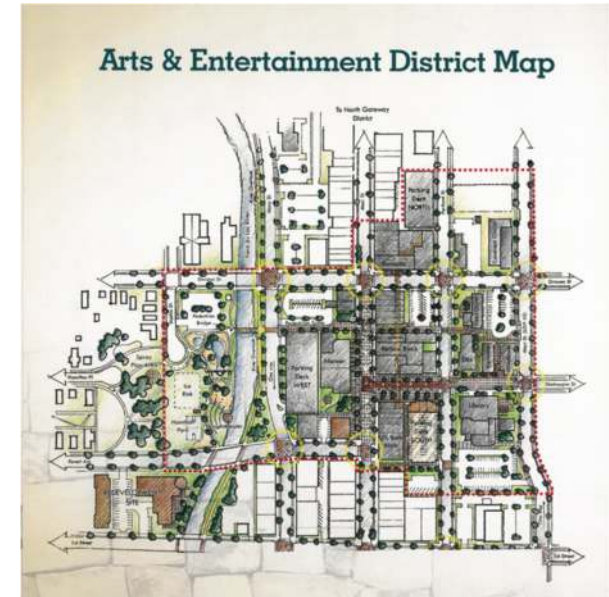
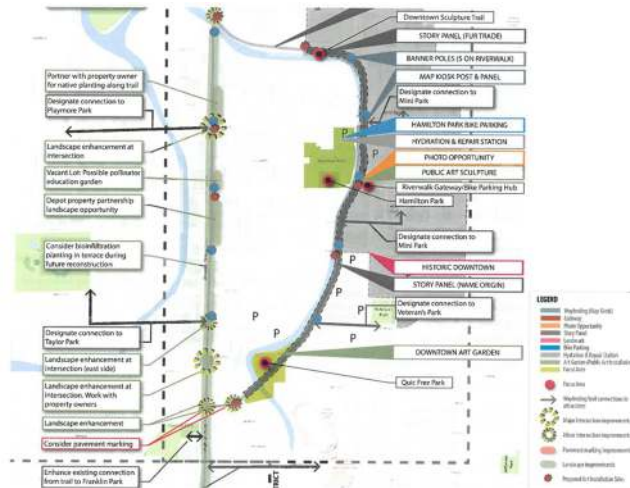
Existing plans providing guidance on improvements:

- Placemaking Strategy, 2019
- Fond du Lac Loop Master Plan, 2017
- 2040 Comprehensive Plan, 2021
- Downtown Development Plan, 2009
- Recreation Plan 2020-2024, 2020
- Downtown Exploratory Committee Final Report, 2016
- 2016 Downtown Fond du Lac Market Study and Plan, 2016
- Ready. Set. Develop. Downtown Vision, 2019

Potential Improvements to Hamilton Park



- Recommendations**
1. Add shade structure and picnic area to playground to allow more people to use the playground more frequently and longer.
 2. Provide small bandshell or gazebo with restrooms and entry plaza to facilitate larger gatherings and events.
 3. Reconfigure parking lot and entrance to the park from the north to create a more welcoming entrance to the park, reduce runoff and create more usable park space.
 4. Align with current and future flood capacity, new paths and better connection to the river in order to provide new recreational, educational and horticultural opportunities.
 5. Consider permanent closure of Forest Avenue and bridge in order to expand the park, connect the bridge into plaza.
 6. Improve entry to park and pathways through the park in order to better define the edges and circulation through the park.
 7. Support the literary walk with a small gathering area for storytime readings.
 8. Improve the basketball court with new paint and benches.



Project Timeline

Blue, bolded items are opportunities for community input

- Initial field review
- Observation visits
- Kickoff meeting - **Pop up public meeting #1**
- Environmental assessment

June/July
2022

August

- Site condition evaluation

- Interview and focus group meetings**

September

October

- Public meeting #2**
- Online engagement survey**

- Bring initial plan recommendation before City Council

Nov/Dec

- Public meeting #3 to review draft plan**

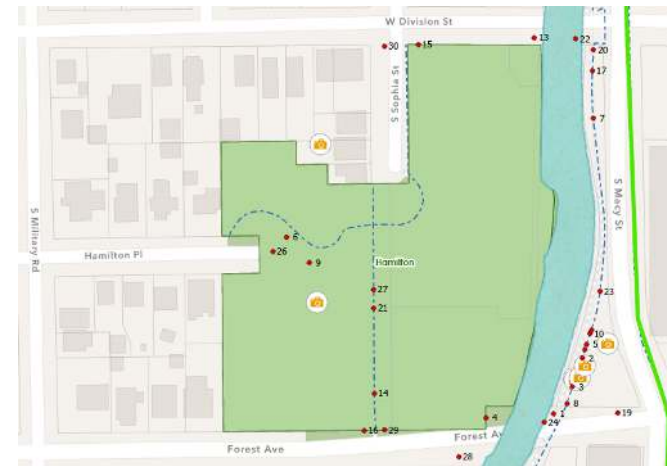
Jan/Feb
2023

- Present full draft plan to City Council for approval

March/
April

Work Done to Date

- Project Team Kickoff Meeting
- Performed site walk-about
- Established overall goals
- Completed first intercept interviews and activity observation mapping
- Summarized existing relevant plans
- Drafted project website



Next Steps

Phase #1 We are here!

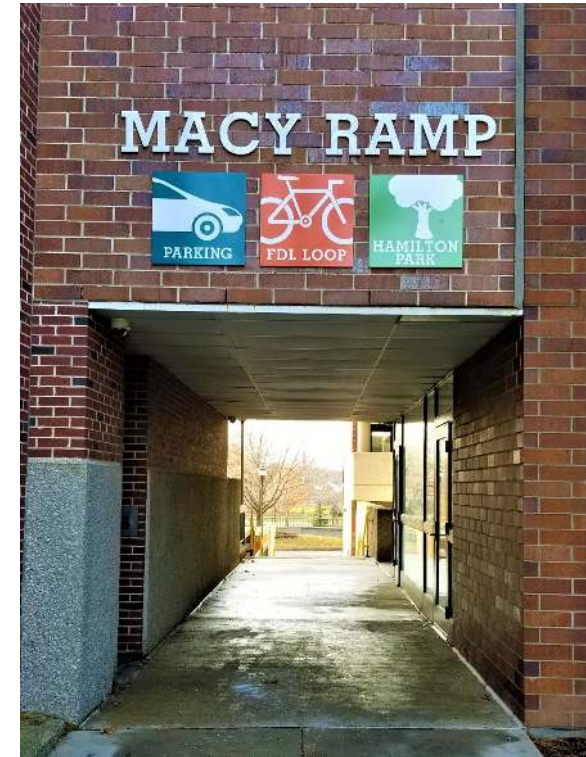
Initial site review, field visits, meeting with the executive team, and collecting data on current uses.

Phase #2

Outreach and engagement with the public through a variety of tools that target all sections of the community to maximize engagement opportunities.

Phase #3

Completion of environmental assessment, site condition evaluations, plus the creation and presentation of the master plan based on information gathered in the first two phases.



Now We Want to Hear From YOU!

What improvements would you like to see?

To provide feedback tonight, please visit the two activity stations set up around the room!

And Check Out The Project Website!





Thank you!



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