RIVERFRONT ENHANCEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NORTHFIELD, MN
CITY COUNCIL UPDATE 10.15.19

BACKGROUND

The City Council adopted a resolution 2018-115 in November 2018 to create the Riverfront Enhancement Advisory Committee to further the City's strategic priorities, including:

- "riverfront enhancement";
- "enhanced tourism"; and
- "expanded downtown"
- All of which contribute to "Economic Development: A Community That's Economically Thriving".

DELIVERABLES

The Council adopted resolution established an expectation that the Committees work would include preparation of a Riverfront Enhancement Action Plan that includes the following:

- Prioritization to align with the strategic plan; and
- Concept plans for strategic park improvements; and
- Identified short term and long term projects and funding sources; and
- Preservation and conservation of the riverfront; and
- Identification of stormwater management project priorities; and
- Strategies for increased active use of the riverfront; and
- Opportunities for business expansion on the corridor.

START UP

COMMITTEE START UP:

Orientation

Assets & Opportunities – Complete Initial Inventory

Work Plan

Consider for 2019

ASSETS & OPPORTUNITIES — EARLY INVENTORY

Riverfront Enhancement Committee Riverfront Enhancement Committee Bridge Square & Ames Park design connection & enhancement ASSETS / POSITIVES OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE Ames Park (ugly & underutilized) Enhance Ames Park River health & wildlife Underdeveloped landings City owned East side properties Quality of natural environment ◊ Northfield "Boat Club" on the 16 ◊ Light the dam (Phillips Electric Project) (water, land, air, birdlife) ♦ East Cannon River Trail current ports of Northfield ◊ Light all the bridges and the walkways Parks / Green Space ◊ Mill Town Trail & City owned west side properties Kavak flume on the river wall Lack of public Nature! (in our town) Huge removable tent on the 4th St. awareness of Lighting dam & bridges bridge (for dances, dinners, river Landscaping enhancement events) opportunities ♦ River as a defining physical & Decorative lighting (dam, bridges, buildings) Lighted gondolas for rent between historical feature Depth / flow for Recreation 2nd & 4th St. bridges ◊ Part of our community's identity Recreation (kayaking, walking, Underutilization of River as a Dam removal Climate adaptation & carbon sequestration Community gathering place fishing, etc.) water trail Dam removal Flooding mitigation Better water use access (dam (whitewater Wetland mitigation portage & fishing) Enhance fishing ◊ Proximity to downtown Bridge Square RV Park / Campground Riverwalk architecture downtown Aesthetics (lack of architectural details of bridges, ♦ Bridge Square & 4th St. Bridge aesthetic lighting, landscaping) ◊ Flows through downtown Access! (get people to the water, landings, signage, ◊ Location to downtown Utilize backsides of Division St. buildings & the ◊ Downtown Pedestrian Bridge increased visibility) Riverwalk between 2nd to 5th Proximity to local business ◊ Pedestrian Bridge Bring recreation trails through downtown to Introduce floating walkway under the 2nd St. bridge Character of adjacent built environment Bridges improve economic vitality to connect to the Marriott and Tiger Trail (i.e. architectural features) Connect to Depot & local regional transit options Walking bridge by Carlton field ◊ The Riverwalk Multi-modal trail connectivity (walk, kayak, bike) Extension of Riverwalk beyond 2nd St. ◊ Restaurant patios Connectivity with sidewalks & trails Better integration with Downtown / businesses

NORTHFIELD MINNESOTA | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

WORKPLAN FRAMEWORK

Start Up

EARLY PHASE

Organizing

Orientation

Asset /Opportunity Inventory

ID Early Priorities

Work Plan/Approach

Scan of Related Past Efforts - ID Key Findings

ID Areas for Potential Consultant Assistance

Development

MID PHASE

Determine Priority and scope for Consultant

Hire Consultant

Coordinate with other Agencies

Study, Assess, Evaluate

Civic Engagement/Outreach

Prioritize

Draft Recommendations & Strategy

Final

LATE PHASE

Refine Draft Recommendations

Prepare Report and Action Plan

Present to Stakeholders

Refine if needed

Present to City Council - Request

action

Sunset Committee

Move to Implementation

January '19 ----- Summer –Fall '20 (or as modified)

Consider for 2019

- Watercraft Takeout Location
 - Riverside
 - Babcock
- Lighting Bridges & River-Walk
 - Philips Lighting Presentation



Concept by Philips Lighting

National Park Service – T.A.

- Professional Services
- Review & Organize Plans & Resources
- Identifying Geographic "Districts"
- Cataloguing Ideas
- Facilitating Trimming & Refining

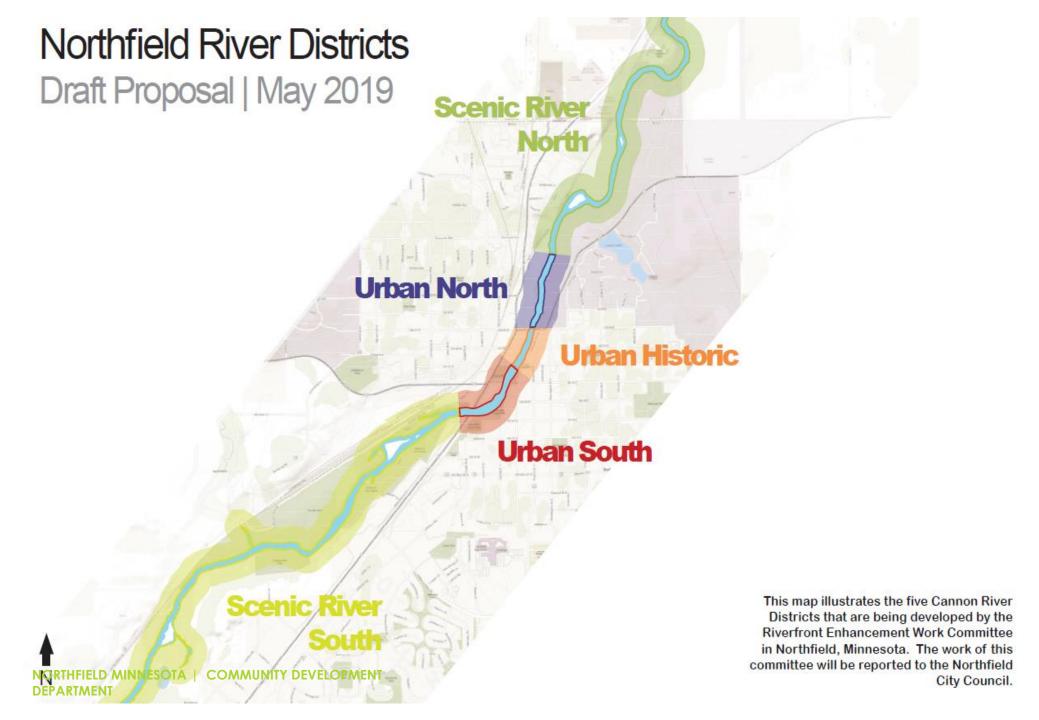
22 Plans, Guides, Resources Reviewed

List of Plans, Guidelines & Resources Containing City of Northfield Adopted Actions Pertaining to Improvements that Impact the River District(s) Shown

Tog	Source	Year	Teg	Source	Year
A	City of Northfield Pedestrian, Bike & Trail System	2019	L	Downtown Streetscape Plan	2006
В	3rd St. Arts Corridor Preferred Concept Plan	2019	M	Greenway Corridor Plan	2006
C	Northfield Strategic Plan	2018	N	Northfield Economic Development Plan	2005
D	Mill Towns Trell Northfield Alignment Concept	2017	0	Q-Block Final Framework Plan	2005
Е	Chapter 519 Wild and Scenic River District	2015	P	MII Towns State Trail Master Plan	2005
F	Framework Planning in Northfield	2014	Q	Natural Resources Inventory	2005
G	Future Vision for Bridge Square	2014	R	Northfield Downtown Preservation Guidelines	2004
н	Northfield Corridor Improvement Plan	2012	8	Northfield Downtown Strategies	2003
	Comprehensive Plan	2008	T	West River Development Guidelines	1999
J	Parks, Open Space and Trail Plan	2008	U	Present and Future Design Workshop	1998
K	Comprehensive Surface Water Management Plan	2007	V	Shaping the Future Strategic Plan	1994

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Documents from 1994-2019



Northfield River Districts Actions & Gaps | All Districts

Scenic River North Urban North Urban Historic Urban South Scenic River South



Map Introduction

Adopted Actions are gathered from 22 documents created for the city between 1994 and 2019. Adopted Actions that can apply in all five proposed river districts but were not called out with specific on-the-ground locations are listed here. Gaps and opportunities are examined in more detail on each of the river district maps on the following pages.

Non-Site Specific Adopted Actions that Apply in All Five River Districts

Create necessary street and highway pedestrian connections, transit services and disability corrections throughout city.

Mill Towns State Trail and other city-to-city destination trails through city are built out. A, D, V

Reduce parking requirements and encourage shared parking where opportunities arise. O, T

Street lighting fixtures illuminate road and adjacent walks.1

All crosswalks are high visibility."

Implement additional crosswalks in downtown."

Intersection treatments along gateway corridors to improve for safety for all."

Make riverfront more welcoming by maximizing opportunities to allow pedestrian access to river. L, 8

Manage Cannon River corridor as a public enjoyment transportation corridor.

√ M

Marking the on-the-ground boundaries for the Cannon River Wild and Scenic Corridor. E, K

Orient new construction and redevelopment to complement the river. T

Add gateway and entry monuments within streetscape. H

Improve appearance of private development by buffering and screening parking and storage areas. 4,0

Install public art within streetscape."

Maintain important open spaces, natural features and river views so as to preserve the town-country feel of a compact city. T, V

Natural infiltration systems, such as bio-infiltration swales and raingardens, retrofitted into landscape and travel corridors. Heal, K

Pedestrian scale lighting for walkways, trails, walks, and paths."

Reuse underutilized public right-of-way spaces (bump-outs at corners & crosswalks) for signage, bike racks, art and planters."

Street, park and right-of-way vegetation chosen from species common at European settlement OR Cannon River ecology.

Broaden the defintion of "mixed use" projects to allow for more flexible development downtown. 4, N

Design and locate trails so that the 50% of trail users within 3/4 mile of trail are motivated to use trails.

Encourage zero lot line development.

More well-advertised events.8

Reinforce identity of each distinct city district or neighborhood.^H

Use existing arts facilities to further grow the city into an arts town.8

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Work in Progress

Current & Upcoming Tasks

- Review Plans & Strategies
- Compiling & Organizing Ideas
- Sorting Ideas

Other- Related Topics

- Floodplain
- Flood mitigation or management
- Dam & River Ecology

Scope & Scope Management

Next Steps

- **▶** 182 IDEAS
- ► Filter & Refine
- Closer Look at Parks
- Draft Actions
- Prioritize
- Prepare Draft Plan



Looking Ahead

Engagement

- Past Plans & Efforts = Significant Input
- Committee Representatives
- Park Board & Stakeholders- Closer Look at Parks
- Public Draft Plan

Action Plan

- Actionable
- Feasible
- ▶ ID Potential Funding Options
- Short Term Actions
- Long Term Actions
- Implementation Will Depend on Dedicated Resources