

Community Visioning Program Overview

Coggon is one of 10 communities selected to participate in the 2019 Iowa's Living Roadways Community Visioning Program. The program, which selects communities through a competitive application process, provides professional planning and design assistance along transportation corridors to small Iowa communities (populations of fewer than 10,000).

Goals for the Visioning Program include:

- Developing a conceptual plan and implementation strategies with local communities
- Enhancing the natural, cultural, and visual resources of communities
- Assisting local communities in using external funds as leverage for transportation corridor enhancement

Each visioning community works through a planning process consisting of four phases of concept development:

- Program initiation
- Needs assessment and goal setting
- Development of a concept plan
- Implementation and sustained action

Each visioning community is represented by a steering committee of local residents and stakeholders who take part in a series of meetings that are facilitated by field coordinators from Trees Forever. Iowa State University organizes design teams of professional landscape architects, design interns, and ISU faculty and staff. The program is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Community Themes & Goals

The Coggon visioning committee identified a number of themes and goals during the visioning process, which are included below:

Trails

- Connect Savage Park and Buffalo Creek Park
- Pedestrian/bicycle circuit through town
- Native plantings
- Connect destinations

River

- Celebrate and promote as community feature
- Promote water trail designation

Natural Areas

- Promote and celebrate parks and natural resources
- Vegetate trails, entrances to town, and circulation routes
- Propose a new park near Mill Street and the historic dam site
- Accommodate all users, ages, abilities, and mobility levels

Safety

- Enhance street crossings for pedestrians and bicyclists
- Improve and add sidewalks
- Stricter standards/ordinance enforcement for sidewalk maintenance
- Replace pedestrian bridge connecting to Savage Park
- Improve ADA access

Identity Projects

- Buffalo branding along Hwy 13
- Main Street safety and streetscape improvements
- Downtown murals, art, and branding
- Improve way-finding signage throughout town
- Emphasize trail/circuit connections

Capturing the Vision

Based on the needs and desires of the local residents, as well as a detailed inventory of community resources, the design team developed a conceptual transportation enhancement plan. This plan, as well as the inventory information, is illustrated in the following set of presentation boards.

1. Program Overview

2 a-h. Bioregional Assessment

3 a-c. Transportation Assets and Barriers Assessment

4. Transportation Inventory

5 a-b. Concept 1-Key Signage, Street and Sidewalk Improvements, Immediate Goals

6 a-b. Concept 2-Main Street Enhancements, Mill Park, and River Route, Short-term Goals

7 a-b. Concept 3-Third Street Enhancement/N-S Loop, Mill Park Loop, and Linn Street Improvements, Mid-range Goals

8 a-b. Concept 4-Coggon Center-Casey's Connection Buffalo Creek Park Trail, Long-term Goals

9. Overall Concept Plan



Coggon Program Overview

Design Team

Landscape Architect: Steve Ford; Designer: Michael LeClere
Intern: Peiming Chen

Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

