



Ideation collage for potential improvements in Gilmore City

### Program Overview

The City of Gilmore City is one of 10 communities selected to participate in the 2023 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 of the bioregional, cultural, and visual resources of communities
- Assisting local communities in using external funds as leverage for transportation corridor enhancement

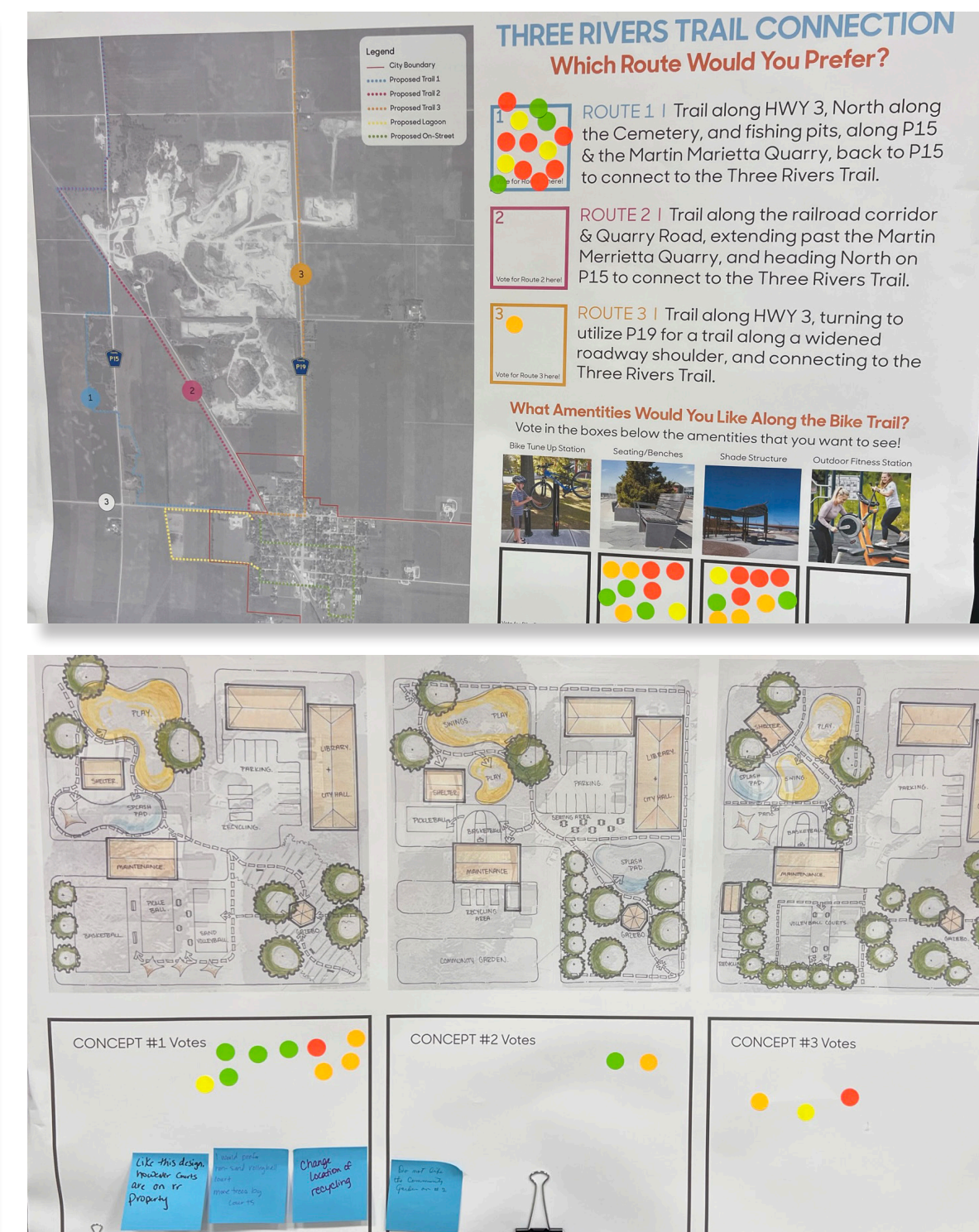
Each visioning community works through a planning process consisting of four phases of concept development:

1. Program initiation
2. Needs assessment and goal setting
3. Development of a concept plan
4. Implementation and sustained action

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

The Gilmore City visioning committee identified several goals and priority areas during the visioning process, which include trail improvements, routes, and amenities to connect to the Three Rivers Trail and on-street solutions within the community; and enhancements to City Park and Downtown.

Iowa State University's Department of Landscape Architecture and ISU Extension and Outreach, of which Community Visioning is part, manage the visioning process and the design team. In addition, ISU project staff and interns conduct a bioregional assessment and public input sessions, including transportation assets and barriers (TAB) focus groups, and a random-sample survey. Iowa State University, along with Trees Forever and the Iowa Department



Community Input from the Design Workshop



of Transportation, select private-sector Professional Landscape Architects (PLA) to be part of the design team and work with the various communities in creating their "community vision" and transportation enhancement plan.

Iowa State University processes the information collected from the focus groups and surveys and provides the data to the steering committee and design team for their use in developing community-centered transportation enhancements based on the needs and desires expressed by residents participating in the focus groups and the public design workshop.

The Community Visioning program is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

### Community Goals

The steering committee identified a number of goals and priority areas during the visioning process. These goals and priorities were reflective of what residents identified during their participation in the TAB workshops. The community goals focused on four main initiatives:

- Improve pedestrian connectivity and accessibility
- Trail connectivity and access to regional networks
- Improving community amenities to provide opportunities for

### Capturing the Gilmore City Vision

Based on the needs and desires of the local residents, as well as a detailed inventory of community resources, the design team developed transportation-based community improvement project concepts, which are illustrated in the following set of presentation boards:

1. Program Overview
2. Bioregional Assessments
3. Transportation Assets and Barriers
4. Transportation Inventory & Analysis
5. What, Where, & Why
6. Concept Plan Overview
7. Three Rivers Trail
8. On-street Bike Lanes
9. City Park Enhancements
10. Downtown Improvements